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THE

ACTS AND INCORPORATION,

BYE-LAWS, CATALOGUE OF MEMBERS,

AND

CIRCULAR LETTER

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY;

WITH A

List of Articles on which the Society wish for information; Books and Pamphlets wanted by the Society; and methods recommended for collecting and preserving animals, vegetables, minerals, &c.

BOSTON:

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY,

By John Eliot, Jun.

1813.

419

Dec. 30 '07

PUBLIC LIBRARY

THE ACT OF INCORPORATION, LAWS, CATALOGUE OF MEMBERS, OFFICERS, &c AND CIRCULAR LETTER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the year of our Lord one thousand, seven hundred, and ninety-four.

An Act to incorporate a Society, by the name of THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

WHEREAS the collection and preservation of materials for a political and natural history of the United States is a desirable object, and the institution of a Society for those purposes will be of publick utility:

Be it therefore enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That William Baylies, Esq. Jeremy Belknap, D. D. the Rev. Alden Bradford, Peleg Coffin, Esq. Manasseh Cutler, L L. D. John Davis, Esq. Daniel Davis, Esq. Aaron Dexter, Doctor in Physic, the Rev. John Eliot, Nathaniel Freeman, Esq. the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, Isaac Lothrop, Esq. George Richards Minot, Esq. the Rev. John Mellen, jun. Thomas Pemberton, William Dandridge Peck, the Rev. John Prince, Ezekiel Price, Esq. James Sullivan, Esq. David Sewall, Esq. Peter Thacher, D.D. William Tudor, Esq. Samuel Turell, Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq. James Winthrop, Esq. Thomas Wallcut, Redford Webster, and William Wetmore, Esq. who have associated for the purposes aforesaid, and have requested an Act of Incorporation; be, and hereby are formed into and constituted a Society and Body Politic and Corporate, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY; and that they, and their successors, and such other persons as shall be legally elected by them, shall be and continue a Body Politic and Corporate, by that name for ever.

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four weeks, but may renew the same once; after which the same person shall not have the same books for three months, unless by special leave of the Standing Committee. Members living more than ten miles from Boston may renew their books without personal application. No manuscript shall be taken out of the library, but in the presence of the Librarian.

Art. VII. The sixth article shall not prevent the Committee chosen to superintend the publications of the Society, from taking out of the library, with the knowledge of the Librarian, as many books and papers as they may want.

Art. VIII. Newspapers and maps shall not be allowed to be taken out of the library, except by the Publishing Committee.

Art. IX. Fines for a breach of the sixth article shall be at the weekly rate of 10 cents for every book less than an octavo, 20 for an octavo, 30 for a quarto, and 40 for a folio.

Art. X. An application in writing, left with the Librarian, shall secure any volume or set for a fortnight after it may be returned to the library; and if more than one such application be made, they shall be answered in the order of their respective dates.

Art. XI. If books or manuscripts be requested for publick uses, or for the peculiar benefit of persons whom the Society is disposed to oblige, the application shall be made to the Librarian, through the medium of some member, who shall be responsible in a written obligation, for the return of each article borrowed, within such time as shall be stipulated by the Librarian, not exceeding three months.

Art. XII. All persons who take books from the library, shall be answerable for any injury to the same, which shall be estimated by the Standing Committee.

Art. XIII. The privilege of using the library shall be suspended, as respects the person who neglects to pay any fines, or assessments for damages, longer than one month after he shall have received notice from the Librarian.

Art. XIV. It shall be the duty of the Librarian to attend at the library, or to procure some member to attend in his stead, on the afternoon of each Thursday, at 3 o'clock, for the accommodation of the members. And it is under-

stood and expected, that the members will regulate themselves accordingly.

Art. XV. All pamphlets shall be bound, except duplicates, which shall be kept by themselves, and triplicates shall be exchanged.

Art. XVI. All manuscripts shall be distinctly marked and numbered, and kept in cases of paper; which shall also be numbered, and the contents of each registered.

Art. XVII. Every present received shall be recorded, and an account of it rendered at the next meeting of the Society.

Art. XVIII. A printed ticket shall be pasted on the inside of the cover of each book, signifying that it is the property of the Society, and also the name of the donor, if it be a present.

True copy of the Laws of the Historical Society,
1 *January* 1813.

Joseph McKean, *Recording Secretary.*

ALPHABETICAL LISTS

OF THE RESIDENT, AND THE CORRESPONDING MEMBERS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

Those with * prefixed have died----those with † have resigned, &c.

Names.	*Residence.*	*Time of Election.*	*Decease, Resignation, &c.*
Hon. John Adams, LL.D.	Quincy	31 July, 1800	
Hon. John Q. Adams, LL. D.	Boston	27 April, 1802	
Joseph Allen, Esq.	Worcester	7 Sept. 1808	
Rev. John Allyn,	Duxbury	29 Octo. 1799	
Hon. Josiah Bartlett, M. D.	Charlestown	24 April, 1798	
Hon. William Baylies, M. D.	Dighton	Original member ||	
*Rev. Jeremy Belknap, D. D.	Boston	Do.	20 June, 1798.
Rev. William Bentley,	Salem	25 Mar. 1796	
Alden Bradford, Esq.	Boston	2 Jan. 1793	
Capt. Gamaliel Bradford,	Do.	31 Octo. 1797	
Rev. John Bradford,	Roxbury	30 Jan. 1798	
*Thomas Brattle, Esq.	Cambridge	25 April, 1797	13 Aug. 1803.
*Rev Joseph S. Buckminster,	Boston	25 April, 1811	9 June, 1812.
Charles Bulfinch, Esq.	Do.	10 Octo. 1801	
Elisha Clap, A. M.	Boston	29 Octo. 1812	
*Rev. John Clarke, D. D.	Do.	26 Jan. 1796	2 April, 1798.
*Hon. Peleg Coffin, Esq.	Nantucket	13 Aug. 1792	Mar. 1805.
Mr. Joseph Coolidge, jun.	Boston	25 April, 1811	
Rev. Manasseh Cutler, LL. D.	Hamilton	29 May, 1792	
Hon. John Davis, Esq.	Boston	24 Octo. 1791	
Hon. Daniel Davis, Esq.	Do.	29 May, 1792	
Mr. Samuel Davis,	Plymouth	30 Jan. 1812	
†Elias Haskett Derby, Esq.	Salem	28 April, 1801	1801.
Aaron Dexter, M. D.	Boston	29 May, 1792	
Rev. John Eliot, D. D.	Boston	Original member	
*Rev. William Emerson.	Do.	13 July, 1801	13 May, 1811.

|| *The first meeting was held 24 Jan.* 1791. *Present, Rev. J. Belknap, J. Eliot, and J. Freeman, J. Sullivan, Esq. Rev. Mr. Thacher, W. Tudor, Esq. Mr. T. Walcutt, and J. Winthrop, Esq.*

Names.	*Residence.*	*Time of Election.*	*Decease, Resignation, &c.*
*William Fiske, Esq.	Waltham	25 April, 1797	13 Aug. 1803.
Rev. Ebenezer Fitch, D. D.	Williamstown	30 Octo. 1798	
Rev. James Freeman, D. D.	Boston	Original member	
Nathaniel Freeman, Esq.	Sandwich	23 Octo. 1792	25 Octo. 1808.
Caleb Gannett, Esq.	Cambridge	31 Octo. 1797	
Hon. Christopher Gore, LL.D.	Waltham	30 Jan. 1798	
Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris,	Dorchester	13 Aug. 1792	
†Stephen Higginson, jun. Esq.	Boston	25 Jan. 1803	25 Aug. 1812.
Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D.	Cambridge	24 April, 1798	
Rev. Jonathan Homer,	Newton	30 April, 1799	
Hon. Daniel Kilham,	Wenham	24 April, 1798	
Rev. J. T. Kirkland, D.D. LL.D.	Cambridge	26 Jan. 1796	
*Hon. Benjamin Lincoln,	Hingham	19 July, 1798	May, 1810.
*Isaac Lothrop, Esq.	Plymouth	11 Octo. 1791	July, 1808.
Rev. Joseph McKean,	Cambridge	7 Sept. 1808	
John Mellen, Esq.	Do.	23 Octo. 1792	
*Geo. Richards Minot, Esq.	Boston	Original member	2 Jan. 1802.
Rev. Jedediah Morse, D. D.	Charlestown	26 Jan. 1796	
Ebenezer Parsons, Esq.	Boston	31 Jan. 1797	
Wm. Dandridge Peck, A. M.	Cambridge	8 Octo. 1792	
*Mr. Thomas Pemberton,	Boston	13 Aug. 1792	5 July, 1807.
†Eliphalet Pearson, LL. D.	Andover	28 Jan. 1800	28 Aug. 1810.
James Perkins, Esq.	Boston	29 May, 1792	
Rev. John Pierce,	Brookline	31 Jan. 1809	
Rev. John Snelling Popkin,	Newbury	13 July, 1801	
*Ezekiel Price, Esq.	Boston	30 April, 1793	15 July, 1802.
Rev. John Prince, LL.D.	Salem	29 Jan. 1793	
Hon. Josiah Quincy,	Boston	26 July, 1796	
Isaac Rand, M. D.	Do.	19 July, 1798	
Mr. Obadiah Rich,	Do.	5 Mar. 1805	

Names.	*Residence.*	*Time of Election.*	*Decease, Resignation, &c.*
Hon. David Sewall, Esq.	York	11 Oct. 1791	
William Smith Shaw, Esq.	Boston	7 Nov. 1805	
Hon. William Spooner, M. D.	Do.	26 April, 1796	
His Exc. Caleb Strong,	Northampton	31 July, 1800	
*His Exc. James Sullivan,	Boston	Original member	10 December, 1808.
William Sullivan, Esq.	Do.	29 April, 1800	
John Langdon Sullivan, Esq.	Do.	28 April, 1801	
Rev. Peter Thacher, D. D.	Boston	Original member	16 December, 1802.
Joshua Thomas, Esq.	Plymouth	25 Oct. 1808	
Isaiah Thomas, Esq.	Worcester	25 April, 1811	
Joseph Tilden, Esq.	Boston	30 Jan. 1812	
William Tudor, Esq.	Do.	Original member	
Mr. Samuel Turell,	Do.	30 July, 1793	27 August, 1811.
Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq.	Do.	30 April, 1793	
Mr. Thomas Wallcut,	Boston	Original member	
*Marston Watson, Esq.	Do.	29 April, 1800	7 August, 1800.
Mr. Redford Webster,	Do.	13 Aug. 1792	
William Wetmore, Esq.	Do.	13 Aug. 1792	
Rev. Peter Whitney,	Northborough	28 Aug 1804	
John Williams, Esq.	Deerfield	30 Oct. 1798	
Rev. Zephaniah Willis,	Kingston	28 April, 1801	
Hon. James Winthrop,	Cambridge	Original member	
Thomas L. Winthrop, Esq.	Boston	28 Aug. 1804	

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Rev. Timothy Alden,	New-York	1 Oct. 1801	
Robert Anderson, M. D.	Edinb. Scotl.	27 Aug. 1805	
*Gardiner Baker, Esq.	N. York N.Yk.	17 Aug. 1795	October, 1798.
Rev. John Bassett,	Albany, Do.	29 Aug 1809	
Benjamin S. Barton, M. D.	Philad. Penn.	26 Jan. 1796	
William Barton, Esq.	Lancas. Do.	26 Oct. 1802	
William Blount, Esq.	Tennessee	25 Oct. 1796	20 July, 1797.
Rev. Andrew Brown, D. D.	Edinb. Scotl.	30 April, 1793	
Rt. Hon. Earl of Buchan	Do.	30 Aug. 1808	
James Clarke, Esq.	Halifax, N.Sco.	17 Aug. 1795	

Names.	*Residence.*	*Time of Election.*	*Decease, Resignation, &c.*
Benjamin De Witt, M. D.	Albany, NewYk.	18 July, 1799	
Henry W. Dessaussure, Esq.	Charleston, S. C.	25 April, 1797	
Rev. John Disney, D. D.	Hyde, England	26 April, 1809.	
John Dunn, LL. D.	Killaly, Ireland	1 Decemb. 1797	
Rev. Timo. Dwight, D.D.LL.D.	Newhaven, Con.	31 October, 1797	
Rev. C. D. Ebeling (Professor)	Hamburgh	28 October, 1794	
Samuel Eddy, Esq.	Providence	27 August, 1805	
*Rev. Andrew Eliot,	Fairfield, Con.	30 October, 1798	Oct. 26, 1805.
*Rev. John Erskine, D. D.	Edinburgh, Scotl.	8 October, 1792	
Moses Fiske,	Tennessee	31 October, 1811	
Hon. Theodore Foster,	Providence, R. I.	28 October, 1800	
Anthony Fothergill, M. D.	Bath, England	28 August, 1804	
Constant Freeman, Esq.	Fort Nelson	25 April, 1811	
Rev. Thomas Hall,	Leghorn	28 April, 1801	
Ebenezer Hazard, Esq.	Philadelph. Pen.	29 May, 1792	
*Gilbert Harrison Hubbard, Esq.	Demarara	18 Novemb. 1796	May 11, 1803.
*Rev. Arthur Homer, D. D.	Cambridge, Eng.	28 January, 1800	1806.
Hon. John Jay,	NewYork, N.Yk.	29 May, 1792	
Edward Jenner, M. D.	England	29 October, 1812	
William Johnson,	New-York	28 May, 1805	
*Sir William Jones,	Calcutta, Bengal	27 January, 1795	Apr. 27, 1794.
Lemuel Kollock, M. D.	Savannah, Geo.	25 April, 1797	
John Coakley Lettsom, M. D.	London, England	27 January, 1795	
*Ebenezer Grant Marsh, A. M.	Newhaven, Con.	1 Septemb. 1800	16 Nov. 1803.
Hon. John Marshall,	Richmond, Virg.	29 August, 1809	
Rev. David McClure,	East-Windsor	17 August, 1795	
Phineas Miller, Esq.	Savannah, Geo.	17 August, 1795	
Rev. Samuel Miller, D. D.	New York, N.Yk.	18 July, 1799	
Samuel Latham Mitchell, M.D.	Do. do.	30 January, 1798	
John Newman, M. D.	Salisbury, N. C.	27 April, 1802	
Hon. Nathaniel Niles,	Fairlee, Vermt.	2 January, 1793	
Rev. Asa Norton,	Paris, New-Yk.	31 January, 1797	

Names.	*Residence.*	*Time of Election.*	*Decease, Resignation, &c.*
Mr. Thomas Pieronnett,	(Then of) Demarara	28 Jan. 1800	
James Perkins, Esq.	(Then of) C. Francois	29 May, 1792	
Hon. Timothy Pickering,	(Then of) Philad. Pen.	24 April, 1798	
Hon. Timothy Pitkin,	Farmington, Conn.	25 Aug. 1812	
His Exc. William Plummer,	Epping, New-Hamps.	25 Aug. 1807	
Hon. David Ramsay, M. D.	Charleston, S. C.	29 May, 1792	
Ephraim Ramsay, Esq.	S. C.	25 April, 1797	
Edmund Randolph, Esq.		23 Oct. 1792	July 20, 1797
Rumford, Benjamin T. Count of,	London, England	30 Jan. 1798	
Rev. Ezra Sampson,	Hudson, New-York	26 Aug. 1802	
Hon. Winthrop Sargeant,	Missisippi	28 Jan. 1794	
*Dr. Isaac Senter,	Newport, R. I.	18 Nov. 1796	1804.
Benjamin Silliman, A. M.	New-Haven, Conn.	Aug. 1806	
*Dr. Elihu Hubbard Smith,	New-York, New-York	1 Dec. 1797	
Rev. Alexander Spark,	Quebeck, Can.	29 May, 1792	
*Rev. John Jones Spooner,	Martin's Brandon, Vir.	26 Nov. 1793	Sept. 1799.
*Rev. Ezra Stiles, D. D. LL.D.	New-Haven, Conn.	23 Oct. 1792	May, 1794.
Hon. Samuel Tenney, M. D.	Exeter, N. H.	8 Oct. 1792	
Charles Thompson, Esq.	Philadelphia, Penn.	29 May, 1792	
His Exc. Jonathan Trumbull,	Lebanon, Conn.	30 April, 1799	7 Aug. 1809.
Rev. Benjamin Trumbull, D. D.	North-Haven, Conn.	30 Oct. 1798	
Hon. St. George Tucker,	Williamsburgh, Vir.	17 Aug. 1795	
General Charles Vallancy,	Dublin, Ireland	7 Nov. 1805	
Hon. Stephen Van Ransalaer,	Albany, New-York	31 Jan. 1797	
John Vaughan, Esq.	Philadelphia, Penn.	26 Aug. 1802	
Rich. Watson, D. D. Bp. of Landaff,	Cumberlandshire	31 Jan. 1804	
Noah Webster, jun. Esq.	(Then of) Hartf. Con.	13 Aug. 1792	
Charles Mary Wentworth, Esq.	Halifax, Nova-Scotia	28 May, 1805	
Jonathan Williams, Esq.	Philadelphia	27 Oct. 1807	
Dr. John Wheelock, LL. D.	Hanover, New-Hamp.	25 Aug. 1807	
Dr. Hugh Williamson,	Edenton, North-Caro.	17 Aug. 1795	
Hon. Oliver Wolcott,	New-York	18 Nov. 1796	

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

Presidents.

Hon. James Sullivan,	1791—1806
Hon. Christopher Gore, LL.D.	1806

Recording Secretaries.

Mr. Thomas Wallcut,	1791
Hon. George Richards Minot,	1792
Rev. James Freeman, D. D.	1793—1812
Rev. Joseph McKean,	1812

Corresponding Secretaries.

Rev. Jeremy Belknap, D. D.	1791—1798
Rev. John Eliot, D. D.	1798

Treasurers.

Hon. Wm. Tudor,	1791—1796 & 1799, 1803
Hon. George Richards Minot,	1796—1799
Hon. Josiah Quincy,	1803

Librarians.

Rev. John Eliot, D. D.	1791—93, 1795—98
Hon. George Richards Minot,	1793—1795
Rev. John Thornton Kirkland,	1798—1806
William S. Shaw, Esq.	1806—1808
Rev. Timothy Alden, jun.	1808
Rev. Joseph McKean,	1809—1812
Joseph Tilden, Esq.	1812

Assistant Librarians.

Rev. John T. Kirkland,	1798, April to
Thomas Wallcut,	1798, August.

Cabinet Keepers.

Hon. George Richards Minot,	1791
Rev. John Eliot, D. D.	1793
Mr. Samuel Turell,	1794—1808
Rev. Timothy Alden,	1808
Rev. Joseph McKean,	1809
Mr. Redford Webster,	1810

Standing Committee.

Hon. George Richards Minot,	1791—1793
Rev. Peter Thacher, D. D.	1791—1802
Hon. James Winthrop,	1791
Mr. Redford Webster,	1793—1810
Hon. John Davis,	1798
Hon. Josiah Quincy,	1798—1802
Hon. William Tudor,	1803—1807
Rev. William Emerson,	1803—1809
Rev. John T. Kirkland,	1806—1812
Thomas L Winthrop, Esq.	1810
Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D.	1811
Rev. James Freeman, D. D.	1812

Committees of Publications.

Rev. Jeremy Belknap, D. D.	1, 3, 4 vols.
J. Eliot, D. D.	1, 4, 5, 8, & I. New Series.
Rev. James Freeman, D.D.	1, 3, 4, 5, 8, &
Hon. George R. Minot,	1, 4 & 6 [I. N.S.
Hon. James Sullivan,	2
Rev. Peter Thacher, D. D.	2 & 8
Hon. William Tudor,	2
Mr. Redford Webster,	2 & I. N. S.
William Wetmore, Esq.	3
Aaron Dexter, M. D.	3
Rev. Jedediah Morse, D. D.	5, & 7
Hon. Josiah Quincy,	5, 6, 9
Hon. John Davis,	6, 9, & I. N. S.
Rev. John T. Kirkland, D. D.	6 & 9
Rev. Abiel Holmes, D. D.	7 & 10
Hon. William Spooner, M. D.	7
Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris,	7 & 10
William Sullivan, Esq.	8
Rev. William Emerson,	9
Thomas L. Winthrop, Esq.	10
Hon. John Q. Adams,	10
Alden Bradford, Esq.	I. N. S.
Rev. John Pierce,	I. N. S.

CIRCULAR LETTER

OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

Respectfully addressed in 1794, *by Rev. Jeremy Belknap, D. D. then Corresponding Secretary, to every Gentleman of Science in the Continent and Islands of America.*

SIR,

THE professed design of our institution is to *collect*, *preserve*, and *communicate* materials for a complete history of this country, and of all valuable efforts of the ingenuity and industry of its inhabitants. In pursuance of this design we have already amassed a large quantity of books, pamphlets and manuscripts; and we are still in search of more.

The Library and Museum of the Society are deposited in a spacious and convenient apartment of the *Crescent*, in *Franklin-Place*, BOSTON. To this apartment, *any person* may have access, by application to the Librarian, or to any one of the members.

But from many instances which have occurred during our own memory, we are satisfied, that depositories, however desirable, are exposed to such accidents, from the hand of time, from the power of the elements, and from the ravages of unprincipled or mercenary men, as to render them unsafe. The surest way of preserving historical records and materials is, not to lock them up; but to *multiply the copies*. The art of printing affords a mode of preservation, more effectual than Corinthian brass, or Egyptian marble. Statutes and pyramids, which have long survived the wreck of time, are unable to tell the names of their sculptors, or the date of their foundations.

Impressed with this idea, the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY have determined, not only to *collect;* but to *diffuse* the various kinds of historical information which are within their reach. Though these materials may come in, at different times, and there may not be opportunity to digest them, in the best manner, previously to their publication; yet we will present them in such order as may be convenient and effectual. If we cannot erect an

elegant building, we will plant a forest, into which every inquirer may enter at his pleasure, and find something adapted to his purpose.

We have therefore encouraged a publication in which is given the result of our inquiries into the *natural, political,* and *ecclesiastical* history of this country. It is requested, that you would contribute to its value and importance, by attending to the annexed articles of inquiry; and we beg leave to depend on your obliging answers, when leisure and opportunity will permit.

We have also contemplated the forming of an extensive cabinet; comprehending the various natural productions of our continent, the adjacent islands and the neighbouring seas. To facilitate this purpose, we have annexed to this letter the best directions we have been able to obtain, for the collection and preservation, of all the proper subjects of natural history. Any specimens which it may be in your power to send will be gratefully received.

Your letters, free of expense, addressed to the President or either of the Secretaries, will be duly acknowledged, and noticed in the Society's publications; and you will have the satisfaction of contributing to the general stock of knowledge with which we hope to entertain the public.

ARTICLES ON WHICH THE SOCIETY REQUEST INFORMATION.

1. THE time when your town or city was incorporated; its Indian name; when the settlement began; whether it was interrupted, and by what means; to what Colony or County it was first annexed; and if there have been any alterations, what they are, and when made.

2. The exploits, labours and sufferings of the inhabitants in war, particular accounts of devastations, deaths, captivities and redemptions.

3. Divisions of your town or city into parishes and precincts, or the erection of new towns within the former limits.

4. Time of gathering churches of every denomination; names of the several ministers; the times of their settlement, removal and death; and their age at the time of their death.

5. Biographical anecdotes of persons in your town, or within your knowledge, who have been remarkable for in-

genuity, enterprise, literature, or any other valuable accomplishment; an account of their literary productions, and if possible, copies of them.

6. Topographical description of your town or county, and its vicinity; mountains, rivers, ponds, animals, vegetable productions; remarkable falls, caverns, minerals, stones, sands, clays, chalk, flints, pit-coal, pigments, medicinal and poisonous substances, their uses and antidotes.

7. The former and present state of cultivation, and your thoughts on farther improvements, either in respect to agriculture, roads or canals.

8. Monuments and relicks of the ancient Indians; number and present state of any remaining Indians among you.

9. Singular instances of longevity and fecundity from the first settlement, to the present time.

10. Observations on the weather, diseases, and the influence of the climate, or of particular situations, employments and aliments, especially the effect of spirituous liquors on the human constitution.

11. Accurate bills of mortality, specifying ages and casualities, the proportion of births and deaths; and the increase or decrease of population.

12. Observations on manufactures of various kinds in any part of America at any time; and a comparative view of them at any two or more periods; particularly before and since the independence of the United States; before and since the establishment of the present federal constitution; with thoughts on the farther improvement of them.

13. Past and present state of fisheries either in the seas or rivers of America.

14. Modes of education, private or public; what encouragement is given to schools and colleges, and what is done to advance literature; whether you have a social library, what is the number of books, and of what value.

15. Associations for religious or literary improvement, or the encouragement of the arts.

16. What remarkable events have befallen your State, county, town, or particular families or persons at any time.

☞ The Corresponding Members of this Society are requested to transmit to the Corresponding Secretary, any historical and geographical information of which they may

be possessed, respecting any part of the American Continent and Islands, together with printed acts and journals of Assemblies and Conventions, whether civil or ecclesiastical. And the Society will gratefully receive from them and from all other persons whatever, any books, pamphlets, manuscripts, maps or plans which may be useful in an historical collection—and any natural or artificial productions which may enlarge the Museum.

As one branch of a collection of materials for the civil and ecclesiastical history of this country—it is intended to form a complete series of Sermons,

On the discovery of America.

On the completion of one century from the discovery or settlement of any *State*, *town*, or other place in the United States.

Delivered before the General Court } in Plymouth
At the anniversary elections } or Boston,
in Connecticut, New Hampshire, or any other of the States.

At the anniversary conventions of the clergy, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Congregational, or Baptist.

At the anniversary elections of officers of the artillery company.

On annual and special Fasts and Thanksgivings.

To militia companies, or to troops in camp.

On victory or defeat in war.

On ordinations, installations, or removals of ministers, dedication of churches, &c.

On the return of peace.

On remarkable events, as fires, earthquakes, epidemic sickness, &c.

At assizes, or the opening courts of justice.

At town meetings, and on other popular occasions.

Orations, Sermons, or Poems,

On the anniversary of the first landing of our ancestors at Plymouth.

On the anniversary of the 5th of March.

On the anniversary of the 4th of July.

At the meetings of the Cincinati Society.

On the death of eminent characters in church or state,
Before any literary society.
Journals, laws, resolves and protests,
Of Congresses.
Of Assemblies, Conventions, and other
Legislative and deliberative bodies,
Conferences and treaties of publick Commissioners,
appointed to treat with Indians.
Tax acts of an older date than 1775.
Proclamations by authority, and other single printed sheets.
Proceedings of Episcopal conventions, Ecclesiastical councils, Presbyterics, Synods, General Assemblies, Baptist Associations, Circular Letters of the Societies of Friends; and of other denominations of christians.
Indian exploits, speeches, anecdotes, &c.
Narratives, Of battles, with the Indians.
Of captives, their exploits, sufferings, escapes, &c.
Of missionaries and itinerant preachers of all denominations.
Journals, Of voyagers and travellers, for *discovery*, *curiosity*, or other causes.
Minutes, or other doings of *political clubs*.
Magazines, museums, newspapers, &c.
Laws, catalogues, &c. of the several colleges in our country.

Directions for preserving animals and parts of animals.

QUADRUPEDS. The *head* should be preserved as nearly as possible in its natural form, with all its parts. If it be necessary to remove any of the bones of the head, care should be taken, to retain the *jaw-bone* with all the *teeth* entire; as the number, form, and situation of the teeth afford some of the most essential and distinguishing characters. The *tongue* ought to be preserved in its natural form; also the *legs*, *feet*, and *hoofs* or *claws*.

BIRDS. These should be preserved in *full plumage*; with the *bill*, *tongue*, and other parts of the head; the *wings*, *thighs*, *tegs*, and *claws*; and the fleshy part of the *rump*, in which the tail-feathers are inserted; with all the feathers as nearly as may be in their natural position. There are many parts or appendages of the head, the presence or absence

of which affords distinguishing characters. Specimens of birds of both sexes and of the same species are desirable. The *nests* and *eggs* of birds contribute to increase the knowledge of natural history.

Amphibious. The *head*, with all its parts; the *skin* or *shell* in its natural form; with all the *limbs* and appendages.

Serpents. The whole *head*, *teeth* and *tongue*. The skin ought to be opened on one side, to preserve uninjured the *scales* on the belly, from the head to the end of the tail. A small portion of the *bone* at the end of the *tail* should be retained. If the skin be spread open and dried (as hereafter directed in the mode of drying the skins of birds) all the rings, spots, and stripes will appear; and especially the scales under the belly, called the *scuta* and *squama;* the number of which affords distinguishing characters.

Fishes. Specimens may be preserved, by splitting the head and taking one half of the *head* and *gills*, and *skin*, with all the *fins* of the back and belly, and along the *tail* to its extremity; the membraneous part which is an extension of the head over the gills, called the *branchia*, and contains a number of long bones called *rays*, which are generally essential in giving the characters of fishes.

Insects. These should be preserved entire.

Testaceous. In preserving those which have two valves or shells; great care should be taken to preserve the *joints* by which the shells or valves are connected; because they contain the essential characters. Those shells which are found with the fish in them are most valuable for the brightness of colour.

Zoophytes, which partake of the nature of both animals and vegetables, should be preserved entire; with the substances to which they may be found to adhere.

Doctor Cutler's *method of preserving the skins of birds.*

"Open the skin along the breast; remove the whole of the body and neck, retaining the bones in the fore-part of the head; the wings, thighs and legs. Then spread the skin open; and place it on a sheet of brown paper, adjusting the head, wings, legs and tail. Over the skin, thus disposed, place another sheet of paper, and a small weight, so as to produce a gentle pressure. When the skin is be-

come somewhat dry and stiff, it may be moistened with a sponge or brush dipped in spirits.* Then sprinkle the skin pretty thick with a powder composed of equal parts of alum, salt-petre, and black pepper. Then place it between two sheets of paper as before, with a gentle pressure. It may be enclosed in several thicknesses of paper, to prevent all the feathers from being injured by the heat, and be placed for several hours in an oven after the bread is drawn."

M. CUTLER.

Methods of preserving animals and their skins.

"*First.* Take half an ounce of crude *Sal Ammoniac* in powder; put it into a pint of water; and when dissolved, add one ounce of *corrosive sublimate mercury* also in powder.

When this solution is used, it should be put into a glass phial and set in a vessel of cold water over the fire. When the water boils, the solution will be sufficiently heated. When heated, it must be laid on with a brush. It is used for washing the inside of boxes, in which insects and other preparations are kept. There should be a string or wire, round the neck of the phial, by which it may be lifted, when hot; and it must be heated in a glass phial as directed; because it corrodes with great rapacity every metallic substance.

"*Second.* Take twelve ounces of *rectified spirit of wine;* one ounce and a half of *spirit of turpentine;* mix, and add half an ounce of *camphor.*

The skins of animals may be passed over with this fluid, by means of a brush. It will destroy several species of insects.

"*Third.* Take white *arsenic* two ounces, *alum*, common *salt*, flower of *sulphur*, white *chalk*, one ounce of each; *colocynth* one quarter of an ounce, and of black *pepper* one ounce. Let each be powdered separately, then mix them intimately.

* The stiffest skins of any animal whatever may be rendered soft and pliable, by the application of the yolk of an egg mixed with warm water.

"*Fourth.* With this compound powder, let the fresh skins of animals be sprinkled on the inside; and for the outside, use one pint of *rectified spirit* in which one quarter of an ounce of *mercury sublimate corrosive* is dissolved. This method is very proper for birds. The celebrated REAUMUR used every spring to place his preparations in an oven made so hot as only not to burn the feathers or hair; by which means any latent insects were destroyed.

It may not be improper to observe, that these are all nocturnal insects, and begin to move soon after twilight in quest of proper substances on which to deposit their eggs. The evening is therefore a fit time to examine the walls, by which attention, many of them may be destroyed. I have found this a useful precaution. The specimens themselves should be frequently and carefully examined, to discover any insects which may have crept into them; without this care, no application whatever will I believe effectually preserve them."

A method of preserving birds and other animals, from the Philosophical Transactions, recommended by Dr. LETTSOM, *in his Traveller's Companion*, p. 13.

"Birds in perfect plumage should be opened from the upper part of the breast, to the vent, with a sharp knife or pair of scissars; the feathers of the breast and belly being first carefully laid aside by the fingers; so as not to hinder the skin being easily come at. The skin must then be carefully loosened from all the fleshy parts of the breast and body. Take out all the entrails. Then with a composition of *burnt alum*, *camphor* and *cinnamon*, of each an equal quantity, well powdered and mixed, let the whole carcase be strewed over lightly; but *salt is not to be used* with this composition, as it will, in moist weather, drop and besmear the feathers. Pour into the body a small quantity of *camphorated spirit of wine;* after that, fill up the cavity with *cotton* or any soft wooly substance, pouring some of the aforesaid spirit into the cotton or stuffing.

"Fill up the body where the flesh has been taken away, with cotton, and your composition; and having a fine needle and silk, sew up the skin, beginning at the breast; ob-

serving, as you approach towards the vent, to stuff the skin as tight as it will bear. This will be easily accomplished by means of a small stick, of wood or ivory, till the whole is done. Then lay the feathers of the breast and belly in their proper order.

"To preserve the *head*, Mr. KUCKAHN directs the neck to be pulled within the skin, till the back of the skull is drawn into sight; out of which a small piece is to be cut, and the brains extracted. The cavity of the skull is then to be moistened with spirits, and filled with the composition and with cotton; the skin may then be drawn to its proper place.

"Or, the brain may be extracted, by making an incision through the roof of the mouth (taking care not to injure the tongue) with a sharp pointed knife and drawing the substance of the brain, the eyes, and other internal parts of the head; the cavity should be immediately filled with the composition and cotton. No water should be used to cleanse any of the cavities.

Large *sea fowls* have thick, strong skins; such may be skinned, taking care to preserve the bones of the head, and other essential characteristic parts. The inside of the skin may be moistened with any of the aforementioned solutions, the sublimate solution to be preferred. But where these cannot be had, a mixture of *tobacco-dust*, *alum*, *pepper*, and *camphor* may be substituted. The skin may then be stuffed with oakum or tobacco steeped in the solution, and sewed up. It should be kept dry, and as soon as possible dried in an oven, not so hot as to crisp the feathers.

"The skins of *fishes* taken off at sea may be preserved in a strong brine, with the addition of a little alum.

"When any subject is to be kept some time in a hot climate, it should be secured in a box filled with oakum, tow, or tobacco, well sprinkled with the sublimate solution.

"Small birds may be preserved whole in spirits; the finest plumage is not injured by this mode.

"Small quadrupeds, reptiles, zoophites and marine insects, may also be preserved in spirits, with the addition of a little alum; the corks of the phials must be well secured, or the spirits will evaporate. The first drawn spirits, commonly called *high wines*, are to be preferred.

" Winged insects are best preserved by drying; when first caught, they should be put into boxes well besmeared with camphor.

Method of collecting and preserving vegetables.
By Dr. Lettsom.

" When the naturalist is in search of vegetable productions, different soils and situations should be examined; as the sea and its shores, deep running waters, dykes, marshes, moors, mountains, rocks, woods, neglected or cultivated fields. Each of these affords peculiar plants; and when any are collected, the particular soil and situation should be remarked. If it be convenient to take the whole plant with its root, flowers and parts of fructification entire and perfect, the most effectual way of preserving it, is to put it into a bottle of spirits. But it is often more convenient to convey them dried in a *hortus siccus*.

" To do this in the best manner, and to make the stalks, leaves and flowers lie flat and smooth, they must be exposed, between papers, to a free dry air, with considerable pressure upon them. The leaves and flowers should be carefully expanded; for on this, the beauty and value of the specimen greatly depend. The plants should be gathered on a dry day, whilst they are in full bloom, and all their parts perfect and entire. When perfectly dry, they may be kept, either loose in quires of paper, or fastened into a book, with glue made of fish ising-glass, dissolved in boiling water.* Particular care should be taken to avoid any injuries from moisture or insects; to prevent any accident from the latter, let the paper and stalks of the plants be sprinkled with the sublimate solution.

* One ounce of fish ising-glass dissolved in a quart of brandy, and boiled till three quarters of the liquor be evaporated, will make a fine glue, which may be kept bottled for a long time.
Dr. Clarkson, late of Philadelphia.

The *impressions* of plants well taken off on paper look very little inferior to the best drawings. Several methods have been recommended. The following by professor PECK is very easy and effectual.

Method of taking impressions of vegetable leaves by means of smoke.

"THE apparatus necessary for this purpose consists of a pane of glass; a pair of pliers, the jaws of which must be covered with leather; a pair of small forceps; a wooden cylinder, about an inch and a quarter in diameter, covered with soft woolen cloth, wrapped four or five times round it and secured; two pieces of sponge of the size of a hen's egg; and some splinters of pitch pine wood. It is convenient also to have two cups of water.

"The process is as follows.—Take a dry leaf, let it lie in warm water till it becomes perfectly flexible; then with one of the sponges moisten the glass; lay the leaf on it, with the face next the glass, pressing it close with the sponge, which at the same time absorbs all superfluous moisture. The glass is then to be taken up by the pliers; a splinter of the pitch pine is to be lighted and the leaf held over the smoke; it must be kept moving, that the smoke may be equally distributed, and the leaf prevented from drying.

"When it is sufficiently blackened, it is to be removed from the glass with the small forceps, taking it by the stalk, near the leaf, and placed on a smooth clean table. Then with the other sponge dipped in clean water, wet the paper on each side, till it is sufficiently moist and soft; then laying it carefully on the leaf, pass the roller over it, bearing on it with both hands, with an even pressure; and you will find a beautiful impression of the leaf with every vein and ramification.

"The smoke is to be washed from the glass for every new impression, If the leaf chosen is fresh, it must be suffered to wither, then wetted and placed on the glass as above."

Method of preserving marine productions.

" *Corals*, *Corallines*, *Sponges* and other marine productions are found in considerable variety near the coasts of islands and continents, particularly in hot climates. Some of these are very tender and brittle when dry, and should therefore be carefully packed up in sand, in order to keep them steady ; or they may be placed between papers in the manner of a *hortus siccus.*

" In hot climates the insects are rapacious and the finest fan-corals and others of a soft texture, when first taken out of the sea, are sometimes almost devoured before they become hard and dry. To prevent injuries of this kind ; a little powdered corrosive sublimate or its solution may be sprinkled on them. Some of the smaller, and some branches of the larger may be put into spirits and the parts of them preserved more distinctly."

DR. LETTSOM.

In collecting mineral *and* fossil *substances, the following particulars are to be attended to.*

" When any articles* are collected, mark them by numbers or some other sign of distinction referring to a catalogue, with all the particulars relative to the subject—as (1.) Where it was found. (2.) In what quantity. (3.) Whether on the surface of the earth, or at what depth. (4.) In what position, whether horizontal, perpendicular or inclined, in what angle and to what point of the compass. (5.) Whether in strata or loose. (6.) The depth and thickness of the strata, how inclined and to what point ; whether the fissures be horizontal, perpendicular or inclined ; and what fossil bodies are contained in the fissures. (7.) The quality of the neighbouring waters, whether pure, tasteless, purgative, vitriolic, chalybeate, &c.

" The places to be searched are the sides and gullies of hills, the shores of the sea and rivers, with adjacent banks and cliffs, and the falls of rivers.

* Sands and clays, chalk, flints, and pit coal are particularly desirable, because useful in manufactures.

" The situation of mines, pits and quarries, whether in vallies, hills, or plains, and the disposition of the strata, their depth and thickness. The damps and steams of mines and pits, and the effects of them on the human body or on fire ; in what seasons and in what state of the air they are observed ; and what is the temperature of the air at particular depths. The accounts of these things given by natives and workmen." All these are subjects of inquiry for a naturalist.

DR. LETTSOM.

THE

ACT OF INCORPORATION

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY.
1853.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

JANUARY MEETING, 1853. A Committee, consisting of Messrs. YOUNG, TICKNOR, and SHURTLEFF, appointed to revise the Rules and Regulations of the Society, reported the same in a new draft, which was laid on the table, and ordered to be printed under direction of the Publishing Committee.

FEBRUARY MEETING, 1853. *Ordered*, That five hundred copies of the By-Laws, as adopted this day, together with the Act of Incorporation, be printed.

Attest, JOSEPH WILLARD,
Recording Secretary.

CAMBRIDGE:
METCALF AND COMPANY,
PRINTERS TO THE UNIVERSITY.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four.

An Act to incorporate a Society, by the name of THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

WHEREAS the collection and preservation of materials for a political and natural history of the United States is a desirable object, and the institution of a Society for those purposes will be of public utility:

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That William Baylies, Esq., Jeremy Belknap, D. D., the Rev. Alden Bradford, Peleg Coffin, Esq., Manasseh Cutler, D. D., John Davis, Esq., Daniel Davis, Esq., Aaron Dexter, Doctor in Physic, the Rev. John Eliot, Nathaniel Freeman, Esq., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, Isaac Lothrop, Esq., George Richards Minot, Esq., the Rev. John Mellen, Jun., Thomas Pemberton, William Dandridge Peck, the Rev. John Prince, Ezekiel Price, Esq., James Sullivan, Esq., David Sewall, Esq., Peter Thacher, D. D., William Tudor, Esq., Samuel Turell, Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq., James Winthrop, Esq., Thomas Wallcut, Redford Webster, and William Wetmore, Esq., who have associated for the purposes aforesaid, and have requested an Act of Incorporation, be, and hereby are, formed into and constituted a Society and Body Politic and Corporate, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY; and that they, and their successors, and such other persons as shall be legally elected by them, shall be and continue a Body Politic and Corporate, by that name forever.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the members of said Society shall have power to elect a President, and all other necessary officers; and that the said Society shall have one common seal, and the same may break, change, and renew at pleasure; and that the same Society, by the name aforesaid, as a Body Politic and Corporate, may sue and be sued, prosecute and defend suits to final judgment and execution.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society shall have power to make orders and by-laws for governing its members and property, not repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth; and may expel, disfranchise, or suspend any member, who, by his misconduct, shall be rendered unworthy.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society may, from time to time, establish rules for electing officers and members, and also times and places for holding meetings; and shall be capable to take and hold real or personal estate, by gift, grant, devise, or otherwise, and the same, or any part thereof, to alien and convey: *Provided*, That the annual income of any real estate, by said Society holden, shall never exceed the sum of five hundred pounds; and that the personal estate thereof, besides books, papers, and articles in the Museum of said Society, shall never exceed the value of two thousand pounds.

And be it further enacted, That the members of said Society shall never be more than sixty (except honorary members, residing without the limits of this Commonwealth), and that James Sullivan, Esq. be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered to notify and warn the first meeting of said Society; and that the same Society, when met, shall agree upon a method for calling future meetings, and may have power to adjourn from time to time, as may be found necessary.

And be it further enacted, That either branch of the Legislature shall and may have free access to the Library and Museum of said Society.

This Act passed Feb. 19, 1794.

BY-LAWS.

CHAPTER I.

OF MEMBERS.

Article 1. — The Regular, or Resident, Members of the Society shall be elected from among the citizens of this Commonwealth, and shall cease to be members whenever they cease to be citizens; the Honorary, or Corresponding Members, shall be elected from among those persons who are not citizens of this Commonwealth, and shall cease to be members if at any time they become citizens.

Article 2. — A book shall be kept by the Recording Secretary, in which any Resident Member of the Society may at any monthly meeting enter the name of any person, whom he may regard as suitable to be elected a Resident Member; it being understood, that each member is bound in honor not to make known abroad the name of any person so proposed, while the person proposed may continue to be a candidate. But no nomination of a Resident Member shall be made except by a report of the Standing Committee, and no nomination thus made shall be acted upon at the same meeting to which it is reported.

Article 3. — Nominations of Corresponding Members may be made by any member of the Society, and shall be entered in the record of the meeting at which each may be made; but no member shall nominate more than one candidate at one and the same meeting, and no candidate shall be voted for at the same meeting at which he may have been nominated.

Article 4. — All members shall be elected by ballot, and in balloting for members, the law and custom of our forefathers shall be observed, by taking the question with Indian corn and beans, — the corn expressing *yeas*, and the beans, *nays;* but no person shall be deemed chosen, unless there be nine members present at the election, nor unless two thirds of all the members present shall have voted affirmatively.

Article 5. — Each Resident Member shall pay eight dollars at the time of his admission, and three dollars annually afterwards, into the Treasury of the Society, for its general purposes; but any member shall be exempted from the annual payment if, at any time after six months from his admission, he shall pay

into the Treasury thirty dollars in addition to what he may before have paid.

Article 6. — If any person elected as a Resident Member shall neglect, for one year after being notified of his election, to pay his admission fee, his election shall be void; and if any Resident Member shall neglect to pay his annual assessment for three years after it shall have become due, and have been demanded, he shall cease to be a member. Each person who shall be elected a member shall, when notified of it, be furnished by the Corresponding Secretary with an attested copy of this Article and the preceding one, and the Treasurer shall, as cases may occur, report to the Society those persons who have neglected to pay their admission fee or their annual assessments, as above required.

Article 7. — Diplomas signed by the President and countersigned by the two Secretaries shall be issued to all persons who have become members of the Society.

CHAPTER II.

OF MEETINGS.

Article 1. — There shall be a Regular Meeting of the Society at noon on the second Thursday of every month, at their rooms in Boston; and Special Meetings shall be called by either of the Secretaries, whenever requested so to do by the President, or, in case of his absence or inability, then by the Standing Committee, or by any five members of the Society.

Article 2. — At all meetings, the President shall take the chair in five minutes after the time appointed in the notification, and the record of the preceding meeting shall then be, at once, read; after which, at all Special Meetings, the special business for which the meeting was called shall be transacted; and at all Regular Meetings the order of business shall be as follows: —

The Librarian shall make a detailed report of whatever may have been received by him since the last meeting.

The Cabinet-Keeper shall make a similar report.

The Corresponding Secretary shall read any communications he may have received.

The unfinished business, and the assignments of the last meeting, shall be announced by the Recording Secretary to the President, and taken up in their order.

The Standing Committee shall be called on to report its doings since the last meeting.

The other subsisting committees that may not have reported shall be called on for reports.

The members who may have any business to propose shall be desired by the President to propose it.

The members generally shall then be invited, so far as time may permit, to make any oral communications on any subject having relation to the objects of the Society; — and, for the orderly accomplishment of this purpose, the Society shall be divided into three sections, as nearly equal in numbers as may be, each of which sections, in regular sequence, shall be notified by the Recording Secretary, that the Society, at the next following meeting, will desire to receive from it such communications as are above suggested, and the officer presiding at the next meeting shall call upon each of the members of such section, in his turn, to offer any such communication or propose any such subject, after which the communication so made, or the subject so proposed, may be discussed by the Society generally. Provided, however, that, if the member proposing such subject prefer to do it in writing, the Recording Secretary shall enter it in the Records of the Society, and it may be discussed either at the time when it is proposed, or at any subsequent meeting.

Article 3. — Five members shall be a quorum for all purposes except the election of members, as hereinbefore provided, and excepting, also, alterations of the By-Laws, which shall not be made unless nine persons are present, nor unless the subject has either been discussed at a previous meeting, or reported on by a committee appointed for the purpose.

Article 4. — At the request of any two members present, any motion shall be once deferred to a subsequent meeting, for discussion, before it is finally disposed of.

Article 5. — All committees shall be nominated by the chair, unless otherwise provided for.

CHAPTER III.

OF OFFICERS.

The Officers of the Society shall be a President, who shall be, *ex officio*, Chairman of the Standing Committee; a Recording Secretary; a Corresponding Secretary; a Treasurer; a Librarian; a Cabinet-Keeper; and a Standing Committee of five; — all of whom shall be chosen by ballot at the Monthly Meeting in April, and shall hold their respective offices for one year, or until others are duly chosen in their stead. But at the regular Monthly Meeting preceding any election of officers, a Nominating Committee, consisting of three persons, shall be appointed by the chair, who shall report to the meeting at which the election is to be made a list of members for the places to be filled; — no person being deemed eligible to more than one of the regular offices of the Society at the same time, and no more than three of the Standing Committee being deemed reëligible.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President shall preside in all meetings of the Society when present, and when absent, a President *pro tempore* shall be chosen by hand vote.

CHAPTER V.

OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

Article 1. — The Recording Secretary, or, in case of his death or absence, the Corresponding Secretary, shall warn all meetings of the Society, by sending, through the post-office, notices of each meeting, at least four days beforehand, to all members living in Boston or in its neighborhood, and to such other members as may specially request him so to do.

Article 2. — He shall keep an exact record of all the meetings of the Society, with the names of the members present; entering in full all reports of committees that may be accepted by the Society, unless otherwise specially directed.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

Article 1. — The Corresponding Secretary shall inform all persons of their election as members of the Society, sending notice of the terms of their election to those chosen to be Resident Members, and issuing afterwards the proper diplomas.

Article 2. — He shall carry on all the correspondence of the Society not otherwise provided for, and deposit copies of the letters sent and the original letters received, in regular files, in the Library.

CHAPTER VII.

OF THE TREASURER.

Article 1. — The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due to the Society, and shall keep regular and faithful accounts of all the moneys and funds of the Society that may come into his hands, and of all receipts and expenditures connected with the same, which accounts shall always be open to the inspection of the members; and at the Regular Meeting in April, he shall

make a written report of all his doings for the year preceding, and of the amount and condition of all the property of the Society intrusted to him.

Article 2. — He shall pay no moneys, except on vote of the Society, or on voucher of an officer or committee acting conformably to its laws or orders.

CHAPTER VIII.

OF THE LIBRARIAN, AND OF THE LIBRARY.

Article 1. — The Librarian shall have charge of all the books, tracts, maps, manuscripts, and other property of the Society appropriate to a library, and shall make and keep exact and perfect catalogues of each and all of them, doing whatever may be in his power, at all times, to preserve and increase the collections under his care.

Article 2. — He shall acknowledge each donation that may be made to the Library, by a letter addressed to the person making it.

Article 3. — He shall at every Monthly Meeting of the Society report all donations made to the Library since the last Monthly Meeting, with the names of the donors.

Article 4. — He shall keep a regular and exact account of all books taken out, with the names of the persons who take them, and the dates when they are borrowed and returned.

Article 5. — He shall be present in the Library, in person or by a substitute approved by the Standing Committee, at the regular hours appointed for keeping it open, and shall endeavor to render it useful to all who may resort to it.

Article 6. — Any member of the Society may take from the Library three printed volumes at a time, and keep each of them four weeks, with a right to renew the loan for four weeks more, unless some other member has, in that interval, asked for it in writing; but if he retains it beyond this second period, he must first obtain the written assent of a member of the Standing Committee, permitting him to do so, or he shall be fined ten cents a week for each volume so retained.

Article 7. — At the written request of any member of this Society, the Librarian shall permit any person to visit and use the Library, at such times as the Librarian may be in attendance; such member becoming thereby responsible for any injury to the property of the Society that may result from such introduction of a stranger.

Article 8. — At the written request of any member of the Society, the Librarian shall deliver to any one person indicated in such request, but to no more than one person at the same time, any book or books belonging to the Society, which the

member himself could take out; such member, by such request, making himself responsible that all the rules relating to the book or books so taken out shall be as fully observed by the person authorized to receive them, as if he were a member; and that any injury accruing to the property of the Society, in consequence of the privilege thus granted, shall be made good by the member at whose request the grant is made.

Article 9. — At the meetings in April, July, October, and January, the Librarian shall lay before the Society a list of the names of those persons, not members, who during the preceding three months, respectively, may have had access to the Library, by permission of individual members of the Society, with the names of the members at whose request the privilege was granted, adding a statement of each injury that may have been sustained by the property of the Society, in consequence of granting such permission, and the name of the member bound to make it good.

Article 10. — The Publishing Committee, for the time being, shall be permitted to take such books and manuscripts from the Library as they may need in order properly to perform the duty assigned to them by the Society; but the Librarian shall make an especial entry or record of whatever is so taken, and, as soon as the volume they may have in charge is published, he shall demand and obtain from said Committee whatever they may have so received.

Article 11. — All manuscripts of the Society shall be kept under lock and key, and be consulted or used only in presence of the Librarian, who alone shall keep the keys.

Article 12. — Persons not members of the Society, but engaged in historical pursuits, shall be allowed to consult the manuscripts belonging to the Society, provided an application in writing, stating the object or objects of the inquiry, be first made to the Librarian, and approved by a member of the Standing Committee, who shall make record of the same.

Article 13. — No manuscript and no part of a manuscript belonging to the Society shall be copied, except on permission granted by vote of the Society, after an application in writing specifying the manuscript or part thereof desired to be copied, and if any manuscript belonging to the Society shall, in consequence of such permission, be published, in whole or in part, the fact that it was obtained from the Society shall be stated in its publication. But nothing herein required shall be construed to prevent the publication of names, dates, and other chronological memoranda, without special permission obtained as above required.

Article 14. — Manuscripts of a confidential nature shall be retained in a place of special deposit, and shall be consulted only under such regulations as may be prescribed in each case by vote of the Society.

Article 15. — No maps, newspapers, or books, either of great rarity or of constant reference, shall be taken from the Library, except by vote of the Society.

Article 16. — All members taking books from the Library shall be answerable for any injury done to the same, to such amount as may be deemed just by the Standing Committee, and any person neglecting to pay any fines, or assessments for damages, one month after he shall have received notice of the same from the Librarian, or otherwise abusing his privilege to the injury of the Library, shall, by order of the Standing Committee, be interdicted from access to the same.

Article 17. — All tracts, books, maps, and manuscripts, belonging to the Society, shall be distinctly marked as its property; and any such tract, book, &c., that may be presented to the Society shall be marked with the name of the donor, and recorded as his gift.

Article 18. — The Library shall be open on all week-days, from nine to one o'clock in the forenoon throughout the year, and from three to five in the afternoon in winter, and from three to seven in the afternoon in summer, except during the fortnight before the Annual Meeting in April, when it shall be closed for examination; and all books that may be lent are hereby required to be returned previous to that fortnight, under penalty of a fine of one dollar for each volume not so returned.

CHAPTER IX.

OF THE CABINET-KEEPER, AND THE MUSEUM.

Article 1. — The Cabinet-Keeper shall have charge of all coins, works of art, remains of antiquity, and other articles appropriate to the Society's Museum, and shall make and keep perfect and exact catalogues of the same.

Article 2. — He shall acknowledge each donation he may receive, by letter, to the person making it, and at every Monthly Meeting of the Society he shall report whatever may have been added to the collection of which he has charge, with the names of the donors.

CHAPTER X.

OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

Article 1. — The Standing Committee, as vacancies may occur in the Society by death or otherwise, shall report nominations for Resident Members to fill the same.

Article 2. — They shall pay the current expenses of the

Society, drawing on the Treasurer, from time to time, for such sums as may be necessary for that purpose.

Article 3. — They shall annually, in the month of April, make a careful examination of the Library and Museum of the Society, comparing the books, manuscripts, and other articles in each, with their catalogues, respectively, and reporting at the April meeting, in detail, concerning their condition.

Article 4. — They shall record in full, in a book kept by them for the purpose, any permission granted by any one of their number for the consultation of the manuscripts of the Society, by persons not members.

Article 5. — They shall meet in the Society's rooms half an hour previous to every Regular Meeting, for the fulfilment of their appropriate duties, and for the purpose of facilitating the transaction of such business as is likely to come before the Society.

Article 6. — They shall, at every meeting, report to the Society all their doings since the last meeting, suggesting at the same time such business as they may deem advisable to bring before it.

CHAPTER XI.

OF THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

Immediately after the publication of any volume of the Collections of the Society, a committee of not less than three persons shall be appointed by nomination from the chair, whose duty it shall be to prepare and publish another volume, for which purpose free use is granted to them of all the manuscripts, printed books, and other resources of the Society, except the manuscripts deposited as confidential; — said committee being required hereby to return whatever they may have thus received, so soon as their use of the same for the purposes of such publication shall have ceased.

CHAPTER XII.

OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS.

At the Monthly Meeting in March, annually, a committee shall be appointed by nomination from the chair, consisting of not less than two persons, whose duty it shall be to examine the Treasurer's accounts for the year preceding, and at the Monthly Meeting in April to report thereon, and on the state of any property of the Society in his hands.

THE

ACT OF INCORPORATION,

WITH THE ADDITIONAL ACTS,

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

BOSTON:

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY.

1857.

11076

Massachusetts Historical Society.

October Meeting, 1857. — A Committee, consisting of Messrs. Robbins, Hillard, Livermore, Chandler, and Deane, appointed to revise the By-Laws of the Society, reported the same in print this day. The Report, as presented, was accepted and adopted.

Attest: CHANDLER ROBBINS,

Recording Secretary.

BOSTON:

PRINTED BY JOHN WILSON AND SON,

22, School Street.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-FOUR.

An Act to incorporate a Society, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

WHEREAS the collection and preservation of materials for a political and natural history of the United States is a desirable object, and the institution of a Society for those purposes will be of public utility, —

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That William Baylies, Esq., Jeremy Belknap, D.D., the Rev. Alden Bradford, Peleg Coffin, Esq., Manasseh Cutler, D.D., John Davis, Esq., Daniel Davis, Esq., Aaron Dexter, Doctor in Physic, the Rev. John Eliot, Nathaniel Freeman, Esq., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, Isaac Lothrop, Esq., George Richards Minot, Esq., the Rev. John Mellen, jun., Thomas Pemberton, William Dandridge Peck, the Rev. John Prince, Ezekiel Price, Esq., James Sullivan, Esq., David Sewall, Esq., Peter Thacher, D.D., William Tudor, Esq., Samuel Turell, Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq., James Winthrop, Esq., Thomas Wallcut, Redford Webster, and William Wetmore, Esq., who have associated for the purposes aforesaid, and have requested an Act of Incorporation, be, and hereby are, formed into and constituted a Society and body politic and corporate, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY; and that they and their successors, and such other persons as shall be legally elected by them, shall be and continue a body politic and corporate, by that name for ever.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the members of said Society shall have power to elect a President, and all other necessary officers; and that the said Society shall have one common seal, and the same may break, change, and renew at pleasure; and that the same Society, by the name aforesaid, as a body politic and corporate, may sue and be sued, prosecute and defend suits to final judgment and execution.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society shall have power to make orders and by-laws for governing its members and property, not repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth; and may expel, disfranchise, or suspend any member, who, by his misconduct, shall be rendered unworthy.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society may, from time to time, establish rules for electing officers and members, and also times and

places for holding meetings; and shall be capable to take and hold real or personal estate, by gift, grant, devise, or otherwise, and the same, or any part thereof, to alien and convey: *Provided*, That the annual income of any real estate, by said Society holden, shall never exceed the sum of five hundred pounds; and that the personal estate thereof, besides books, papers, and articles in the Museum of said Society, shall never exceed the value of two thousand pounds.

And be it further enacted, That the members of said Society shall never be more than sixty (except honorary members, residing without the limits of this Commonwealth), and that James Sullivan, Esq., be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered to notify and warn the first meeting of said Society; and that the same Society, when met, shall agree upon a method for calling future meetings, and may have power to adjourn from time to time, as may be found necessary.

And be it further enacted, That either branch of the Legislature shall and may have free access to the Library and Museum of said Society.

[This Act passed Feb. 19, 1794.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIVE.

An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: —

SECT. 1. — The Massachusetts Historical Society is hereby authorized to hold real and personal estate, in addition to its Library, to an amount not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars.

SECT. 2. — This Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

[This Act passed May 19, 1855.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SEVEN.

An Act in relation to the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: —

SECT. 1. — Nothing in the Act of Incorporation of the Massachusetts Historical Society shall prevent said Society from electing Associate or Corresponding Members residing without the limits of this Commonwealth, or Honorary Members residing either within or without said limits, or from having as many as one hundred Resident Members, at their discretion.

SECT. 2. — This Act shall take effect from and after its acceptance by said Society.

[This Act passed April 1, 1857.]

BY-LAWS.

CHAPTER I.

OF MEMBERS.

ARTICLE 1. — The Regular or Resident Members of the Society shall be elected from among the citizens of this Commonwealth, and shall cease to be members whenever they cease to be citizens. The Associate or Corresponding Members shall be elected from among those persons who are not citizens of this Commonwealth, and shall cease to be members if at any time they become citizens. Honorary members may be elected at large.

ART. 2. — A book shall be kept by the Recording Secretary, in which any Resident Member of the Society may enter the name of any person whom he may regard as suitable to be nominated as a Resident, Corresponding, or Honorary Member; it being understood that each member is bound in honor not to make known abroad the name of any person so proposed. But no nomination of any member shall be made except by a report of the Standing Committee at a stated meeting, nor be acted upon at the same meeting to which it is reported; nor shall more than two candidates for membership, of the same class, be reported at any one meeting.

ART. 3. — Nominations of Corresponding or Honorary Members shall be accompanied by a brief statement, in writing, of the place of residence and qualifications of the person nominated.

ART. 4. — All members shall be elected by ballot; and, in balloting for members, the law and custom of our fore-

fathers shall be observed, by taking the question with Indian corn and beans; the corn expressing *yeas*, and the beans, *nays*. But no person shall be deemed chosen, unless there be twenty members present at the election, nor unless three fourths of all the members present shall have voted affirmatively.

Art. 5. — Each Resident Member shall pay ten dollars at the time of his admission, and five dollars annually afterwards, into the treasury of the Society, for its general purposes; but any member shall be exempted from the annual payment, if, at any time after six months from his admission, he shall pay into the treasury sixty dollars in addition to what he may before have paid.

Art. 6. — If any person elected as a Resident Member shall neglect, for one year after being notified of his election, to pay his admission-fee, his election shall be void; and, if any Resident Member shall neglect to pay his annual assessment for three years after it shall have become due and have been demanded, he shall cease to be a member. Each person who shall be elected a member shall, when notified of it, be furnished by the Corresponding Secretary with an attested copy of this Article and the preceding one; and the Treasurer shall, as cases may occur, report to the Society those persons who have neglected to pay their admission-fee or their annual assessments, as above required.

Art. 7. — Diplomas signed by the President, and countersigned by the two Secretaries, shall be issued to all persons who have become members of the Society.

CHAPTER II.

OF MEETINGS.

Art. 1. — There shall be a Regular Meeting of the Society at noon, on the second Thursday of every month, at their rooms in Boston; provided, however, that the Stand-

ing Committee shall have authority to postpone any such monthly meeting for not exceeding two weeks, or to direct it to be held at other rooms, whenever a day of public observance shall happen on the second Thursday of any month; or whenever a different time or place shall, for any cause, be obviously for the convenience of the members. Special meetings shall be called by either of the Secretaries, whenever requested so to do by the President, or, in case of his absence or inability, by one of the Vice-Presidents or by the Standing Committee.

Art. 2. — At all meetings, the President shall take the chair in five minutes after the time appointed in the notification; and the record of the preceding meeting shall then be at once read. After which, at all Special Meetings, the special business for which the meeting was called shall be transacted; and, at all Regular Meetings, the order of business shall be as follows: —

The Librarian shall make a detailed report of whatever may have been received by him since the last meeting.

The Cabinet-keeper shall make a similar report.

The Corresponding Secretary shall read any communications he may have received.

The unfinished business and the assignments of the last meeting shall be announced by the Recording Secretary to the President, and taken up in their order.

The Standing Committee shall be called on to report its doings since the last meeting.

The other subsisting committees that may not have reported shall be called on for reports.

The members who may have any business to propose shall be desired by the President to propose it.

The members generally shall then be invited, so far as time may permit, to make any oral communications on any subject having relation to the objects of the Society; and, for the orderly accomplishment of this purpose, the Society shall be divided into three sections as nearly equal in numbers as may be, each of which sections, in regular sequence, shall be notified by the Recording Secretary, that the So-

ciety, at the next following meeting, will desire to receive from it such communications as are above suggested; and the officer presiding at the next meeting shall call upon each of the members of such section, in his turn, to offer any such communication or propose any such subject; after which, the communication so made, or the subject so proposed, may be discussed by the Society generally. Provided, however, that, if the member proposing such subject prefer to do it in writing, the Recording Secretary shall enter it in the Records of the Society; and it may be discussed either at the time when it is proposed, or at any subsequent meeting.

Art. 3. — Fifteen members shall be a quorum for all purposes except the election of members, as hereinbefore provided; and excepting, also, alterations of the By-laws, which shall not be made unless twenty persons are present, nor unless the subject has either been discussed at a previous meeting, or reported on by a committee appointed for the purpose.

Art. 4. — At the request of any two members present, any subject proposed for discussion shall be once deferred to a subsequent meeting, before it is finally disposed of.

Art. 5. — All committees shall be nominated by the chair, unless otherwise provided for.

CHAPTER III.

OF OFFICERS.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, who shall be, *ex officio*, Chairman of the Standing Committee; two Vice-Presidents; a Recording Secretary, who shall also be, *ex officio*, Secretary of the Standing Committee; a Corresponding Secretary; a Treasurer; a Librarian; a Cabinet-keeper; and a Standing Committee of five, — all of whom shall be chosen by ballot at the monthly meeting in April,

and shall hold their respective offices for one year, or until others are duly chosen in their stead. But, at the regular monthly meeting preceding any election of officers, a Nominating Committee, consisting of three persons, shall be appointed by the chair, who shall report to the meeting at which the election is to be made a list of members for the places to be filled; no person being deemed eligible to more than one of the regular offices of the Society at the same time, and no more than three of the Standing Committee being deemed re-eligible.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President shall preside in all meetings of the Society when present, and, when absent, one of the Vice-Presidents in the order of their names. In the absence of all these officers, a President *pro tempore* shall be chosen by hand-vote.

CHAPTER V.

OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

ART. 1. — The Recording Secretary, or, in case of his death or absence, the Corresponding Secretary, shall warn all meetings of the Society, by causing to be sent, through the post-office, to all the Resident Members, notices of each meeting. Notices of the regular meetings shall be issued on the Monday preceding.

ART. 2. — He shall keep an exact record of all the meetings of the Society, with the names of the members present; entering in full all reports of committees that may be accepted by the Society, unless otherwise specially directed.

See Chap. VIII., Art. 6.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

ART. 1. — The Corresponding Secretary shall inform all persons of their election as members of the Society, sending notice of the terms of their election to those chosen to be Resident Members, and issuing afterwards the proper diplomas.

ART. 2. — He shall carry on all the correspondence of the Society not otherwise provided for; and deposit copies of the letters sent and the original letters received, in regular files, in the Library.

CHAPTER VII.

OF THE TREASURER.

ART. 1. — The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due to the Society, and shall keep regular and faithful accounts of all the moneys and funds of the Society that may come into his hands, and of all receipts and expenditures connected with the same, — which accounts shall always be open to the inspection of the members; and, at the regular meeting in April, he shall make a written report of all his doings for the year preceding, and of the amount and condition of all the property of the Society intrusted to him. One week before the monthly meeting in April of each year, he shall give notice to every member of the annual assessment remaining due from him for every preceding year.

ART. 2. — He shall pay no moneys, except on vote of the Society, or on voucher of an officer or committee acting conformably to its laws or orders.

CHAPTER VIII.

OF THE LIBRARIAN, AND OF THE LIBRARY.

ART. 1. — The Librarian shall have charge of all the books, tracts, maps, manuscripts, and other property of the Society appropriate to a library; and shall cause to be made and kept exact and perfect catalogues of each and all of them, doing whatever may be in his power, at all times, to preserve and increase the collections under his care.

ART. 2. —He shall acknowledge each donation that may be made to the Library, by a certificate addressed to the person making it.

ART. 3. — He shall, at every monthly meeting of the Society, report all donations made to the Library since the last monthly meeting, with the names of the donors; and, at the annual meeting, shall present a statement of the condition and wants of the Library, with a notice of the important accessions that may have been made to it during the year.

ART. 4. — He shall cause to be kept a regular and exact account of all books taken out, with the names of the persons who take them, and the dates when they are borrowed and returned.

ART. 5. — He shall report in writing, at each monthly meeting, the name of every book that has been out of the Library for a longer term than is permitted by the By-laws, and shall use his discretion in obtaining the return of such books.

ART. 6. — There shall be an Assistant Librarian, not a member of the Society, appointed by the Standing Committee and the Librarian, who shall assist the Librarian in all or any of his duties; who shall also aid the Recording Secretary in notifying meetings, copying reports, or in any other way that may be required, and who shall render such other services to the Society connected with its Library or its general proceedings as the Standing Committee may direct.

ART. 7. — The Librarian shall be present in the Library, in

person or by his assistant, at the regular hours, and at such other times as may be appointed for keeping it open; and shall endeavor to render it useful to all who may resort to it.

Art. 8. — Any member of the Society may take from the Library three printed volumes at a time, and keep each of them four weeks, with a right to renew the loan for four weeks more, unless some other member has, in that interval, asked for it in writing; but, if he retains it beyond this second period, he must first obtain the written assent of a member of the Standing Committee, permitting him to do so, or he shall be fined ten cents a week for each volume so retained.

Art. 9. — At the written request of any member of this Society, the Librarian shall permit any person to visit and use the Library, at such times as the Librarian may be in attendance; such member becoming thereby responsible for any injury to the property of the Society that may result from such introduction of a stranger.

Art. 10. — At the written request of any member of the Society, the Librarian shall deliver to any one person indicated in such request, but to no more than one person at the same time, any book or books belonging to the Society, which the member himself could take out; such member, by such request, making himself responsible that all the rules relating to the book or books so taken out shall be as fully observed by the person authorized to receive them, as if he were a member; and that any injury accruing to the property of the Society, in consequence of the privilege thus granted, shall be made good by the member at whose request the grant is made.

Art. 11. — At the meetings in April, July, October, and January, the Librarian shall lay before the Society a list of the names of those persons, not members, who, during the preceding three months respectively, may have had access to the Library by permission of individual members of the Society, with the names of the members at whose request the privilege was granted; adding a statement of each injury that may have been sustained by the property of the Society,

in consequence of granting such permission, and the name of the member bound to make it good.

Art. 12. — The Publishing Committee, for the time being, shall be permitted to take such books and manuscripts from the Library as they may need, in order properly to perform the duty assigned to them by the Society; but the Librarian shall make an especial entry or record of whatever is so taken, and, as soon as the volume they may have in charge is published, he shall demand and obtain from said Committee whatever they may have so received.

Art. 13. — All manuscripts of the Society shall be kept under lock and key, and be consulted or used only in presence of the Librarian or his Assistant.

Art. 14. — Persons not members of the Society, but engaged in historical pursuits, shall be allowed to consult the manuscripts belonging to the Society, provided an application in writing, stating the object or objects of the inquiry, be first made to the Librarian, and approved by a member of the Standing Committee, who shall make record of the same.

Art. 15. — No manuscript, and no part of a manuscript, belonging to the Society, shall be copied, except on permission granted by vote of the Society, after an application in writing, specifying the manuscript, or part thereof, desired to be copied; and if any manuscript belonging to the Society shall, in consequence of such permission, be published, in whole or in part, the fact that it was obtained from the Society shall be stated in its publication. But nothing herein required shall be construed to prevent the publication of names, dates, and other chronological memoranda, without special permission obtained as above required.

Art. 16. — Manuscripts of a confidential nature shall be retained in a place of special deposit, and shall be consulted only under such regulations as may be prescribed in each case by vote of the Society.

Art. 17. — No maps, newspapers, or books, either of great rarity or of constant reference, shall be taken from the Library, except by vote of the Society.

Art. 18. — All members taking books from the Library shall be answerable for any injury done to the same, to such amount as may be deemed just by the Standing Committee; and any person neglecting to pay any fines, or assessments for damages, one month after he shall have received notice of the same from the Librarian, or otherwise abusing his privilege to the injury of the Library, shall, by order of the Standing Committee, be interdicted from access to the same.

Art. 19. — All tracts, books, maps, and manuscripts belonging to the Society, shall be distinctly marked as its property; and any such tract, book, &c., that may be presented to the Society shall be marked with the name of the donor, and recorded as his gift.

Art. 20. — The Library shall be open on all week-days, from nine o'clock in the forenoon to two in the afternoon, throughout the year, except on days of public observance, and also during the fortnight before the annual meeting in April, when it shall be closed for examination; and all books that may be lent are hereby required to be returned previous to that fortnight, under a penalty of a fine of one dollar for each volume not so returned.

CHAPTER IX.

OF THE CABINET-KEEPER, AND THE MUSEUM.

Art. 1. — The Cabinet-keeper shall have charge of all coins, works of art, remains of antiquity, and other articles appropriate to the Society's Museum, and shall make and keep perfect and exact catalogues of the same.

Art. 2. — He shall acknowledge each donation he may receive, by letter, to the person making it. At every monthly meeting of the Society, he shall report whatever may have been added to the collection of which he has charge, with the names of the donors; and, at the annual meeting, shall present a full report of the condition of the Museum.

CHAPTER X.

OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

ART. 1. — The Standing Committee, as vacancies may occur in the Society by death or otherwise, shall, at their discretion, report nominations for Resident Members to fill the same.

ART. 2. — They shall pay the current expenses of the Society, drawing on the Treasurer, from time to time, for such sums as may be necessary for that purpose.

ART. 3. — They shall annually, in the month of April, make a careful examination of the Library and Museum of the Society, and also of the Dowse Library; comparing the books, manuscripts, and other articles in each, with their catalogues, respectively, and reporting at the April meeting, in detail, concerning ther condition.

ART. 4. — They shall record in full, in a book kept by them for the purpose, any permission granted by any one of their number for the consultation of the manuscripts of the Society, by persons not members.

ART. 5. — They shall meet in the Society's rooms one hour previous to every regular meeting, for the fulfilment of their appropriate duties, and for the purpose of facilitating the transaction of such business as will be brought before the Society.

ART. 6. — They shall, at every meeting, report to the Society all their doings since the last meeting, suggesting at the same time such business as they may deem advisable to bring before it.

CHAPTER XI.

OF THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

Immediately after the publication of any volume of the Collections of the Society, or at any other time when the Society may order, a Committee of not less than three persons shall be appointed by nomination from the chair, whose duty it shall be to prepare and publish another volume; for which purpose, free use is granted to them of all the manu-

scripts, printed books, and other resources of the Society, except the manuscripts deposited as confidential; said Committee being required hereby to return whatever they may have thus received, so soon as their use of the same for the purposes of such publication shall have ceased.

In every publication that shall be made from the income of the Appleton Fund, there shall be inserted in each volume a notice, in print, that it was made at the charge of that fund.

CHAPTER XII.

OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS.

At the monthly meeting in March, annually, a Committee shall be appointed by nomination from the chair, consisting of not less than two persons, whose duty it shall be to examine the Treasurer's accounts for the year preceding, and at the monthly meeting in April to report thereon, and on the state of any property of the Society in his hands.

CHAPTER XIII.

RULES FOR THE DOWSE LIBRARY.

Art. 1. — The room in which the books are deposited which were presented to the Society by Thomas Dowse shall be known for ever as the Dowse Library of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Art. 2. — No book shall be taken out of this room.

Art. 3. — Books may be used in the room by members of the Society, and by others introduced by them in person; but no book shall be taken from the cases except by members, or by the Assistant Librarian, who shall cause each book to be returned to its proper place immediately after it has been used.

Art. 4. — Meetings of the Society may be held in the Dowse Library, at the discretion of the Standing Committee; but the room shall not be used for any other meetings.

Officers of the Society for the Year 1857–58.

President.
Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, LL.D.

Vice-Presidents.
JARED SPARKS, LL.D.
Hon. DAVID SEARS, A.M.

Recording Secretary.
Rev. CHANDLER ROBBINS, D.D.

Corresponding Secretary.
JOSEPH WILLARD, A.M.

Treasurer.
Hon. RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, jun.

Librarian.
Rev. SAMUEL K. LOTHROP, D.D.
[*Assistant.* — JOHN APPLETON, M.D.]

Cabinet Keeper.
NATHANIEL B. SHURTLEFF, M.D.

Standing Committee.
WILLIAM BRIGHAM, A.B.
FRANCIS PARKMAN, A.B.
GEORGE LIVERMORE, A.M.
THOMAS ASPINWALL, A.M.

Resident Members, in the Order of their Election.

Hon. Josiah Quincy, LL.D.
Hon. James Savage, LL.D.
Hon. Nathan Hale, LL.D.
Hon. Edward Everett, LL.D.
Rev. William Jenks, D.D.
Jared Sparks, LL.D.
Joseph E. Worcester, LL.D.
Joseph Willard, A.M.
Lemuel Shattuck, Esq.
Rev. Joseph B. Felt, ~~A.M.~~ *L. L. D.*
Hon. Lemuel Shaw, LL.D.
Rev. Convers Francis, D.D.
George Ticknor, LL.D.
Hon. Nathan Appleton, LL.D.
Hon. Rufus Choate, LL.D.
Hon. Daniel A. White, LL.D.
William H. Prescott, LL.D.
Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, LL.D.
Rev. Alvan Lamson, D.D.
Hon. Charles F. Adams, A.M.
Rev. George E. Ellis, D.D.
Hon. John C. Gray, LL.D.
Rev. Nathl. L. Frothingham, D.D.
Hon. George S. Hillard, LL.D.
Hon. William Minot, A.M.
Hon. Peleg W. Chandler, A.M.
Rev. George W. Blagden, D.D.
Rev. Lucius R. Paige, A.M.
Hon. Solomon Lincoln, A.M.
Rev. Chandler Robbins, D.D.

Francis Bowen, A.M.
John Langdon Sibley, A.M.
Hon. Richard Frothingham, jun.
Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, M.D.
Henry Wheatland, M.D.
Hon. David Sears, A.M.
Sylvester Judd, Esq.
Thomas H. Webb, M.D.
Charles Deane, Esq., A.M.
George Livermore, A.M.
Francis Parkman, A.B.
Ellis Ames, A.M.
Hon. John H. Clifford, LL.D.
William Brigham, A.B.
Hon. Emory Washburn, LL.D.
Rev. Samuel K. Lothrop, D.D.
Rev. William Newell, D.D.
Hon. Lorenzo Sabine, A.M.
Thomas Aspinwall, A.M.
Rev. John S. Barry.
John A. Lowell, LL.D.
Lucius M. Sargent, A.M.
Cornelius C. Felton, LL.D.
J. Lathrop Motley, A.B.
Nathaniel I. Bowditch, A.M.
George R. Russell, LL.D.
Hon. Charles H. Warren.
Rev. James Walker, D.D.
Rev. Edmund H. Sears, A.B.
Oliver Wendell Holmes, M.D.

3 *Wm. P. Sumner A.M.*
Henry W. Longfellow A.M.

Honorary and Corresponding Members,

ELECTED UNDER THE ORIGINAL ACT OF INCORPORATION, 1794.

IN THE ORDER OF THEIR ELECTION.

This List is believed to contain the names of all the Honorary and Corresponding Members now living.

Benjamin Silliman, LL.D.
Rev. Eliphalet Nott, D.D.
John Wakefield Francis, M.D.
Baron Alexander von Humboldt.
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Miss Frances Manwaring Caulkins.
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Samuel Eliot, A.M.
G. P. Faribault, Esq.
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Honorary and Corresponding Members,

ELECTED SINCE THE PASSAGE OF THE ACT OF 1857.

Honorary.

François Pierre Guill. Guizot, LL.D.
Alexis De Tocqueville, LL.D.

Corresponding.

Rev. William B. Sprague, D.D.
Rev. Samuel Osgood, D.D.
William Durrant Cooper, F.S.A.
E. B. O'Callaghan, M.D.
Buckingham Smith, Esq.
Benjamin F. French, Esq.

THE

ACT OF INCORPORATION,

WITH THE ADDITIONAL ACTS

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY;

WITH A LIST OF

OFFICERS AND RESIDENT MEMBERS.

BOSTON:
PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY.
1873.

Massachusetts Historical Society.

The following By-Laws were revised and adopted by the Society, at the monthly meeting in December, 1873. The Officers were elected April, 1873.

Attest: CHARLES DEANE,

Recording Secretary.

Boston, Dec. 21, 1873.

CAMBRIDGE:

PRINTED BY JOHN WILSON AND SON.

OFFICERS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ELECTED APRIL 10, 1873.

President.

HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, LL.D. . . . . BOSTON.

Vice-Presidents.

HON. CHARLES F. ADAMS, LL.D. . . . . BOSTON.
HON. EMORY WASHBURN, LL.D. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

Recording Secretary.

CHARLES DEANE, LL.D. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

Corresponding Secretary.

REV. CHANDLER ROBBINS, D.D. . . . . BOSTON.

Treasurer.

HON. RICHARD FROTHINGHAM, LL.D. . . . CHARLESTOWN.

Librarian.

SAMUEL A. GREEN, M.D. . . . . BOSTON.

Cabinet-Keeper.

HENRY G. DENNY, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.

Standing Committee.

REV. ROBERT C. WATERSTON, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.
HON. NATHANIEL B. SHURTLEFF, M.D. . . . . BOSTON.
AUGUSTUS T. PERKINS, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.
ROBERT M. MASON, ESQ. . . . . BOSTON.
WILLIAM S. APPLETON, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.

RESIDENT MEMBERS,

AT THE DATE OF THE PRINTING OF THIS BOOK, IN THE ORDER OF THEIR ELECTION.

Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, LL.D.
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Hon. Charles Sumner, LL.D. *
Charles W. Eliot, LL.D.

[The above list of ONE HUNDRED MEMBERS makes the RESIDENT ROLL complete.]

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Henry W. Foote
Charles C. Perkins
Charles Devens jr

Charles F. Adams jr
W. P. Upham
Alex H. Bullock
Fitch E. Oliver
Wm Sumner

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-FOUR.

An Act to incorporate a Society, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Whereas the collection and preservation of materials for a political and natural history of the United States is a desirable object, and the institution of a Society for those purposes will be of public utility, —

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That William Baylies, Esq., Jeremy Belknap, D.D., the Rev. Alden Bradford, Peleg Coffin, Esq., Manasseh Cutler, D.D., John Davis, Esq., Daniel Davis, Esq., Aaron Dexter, Doctor in Physic, the Rev. John Eliot, Nathaniel Freeman, Esq., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, Isaac Lothrop, Esq., George Richards Minot, Esq., the Rev. John Mellen, Jr., Thomas Pemberton, William Dandridge Peck, the Rev. John Prince, Ezekiel Price, Esq., James Sullivan, Esq., David Sewall, Esq., Peter Thacher, D.D., William Tudor, Esq., Samuel Turell, Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq., James Winthrop, Esq., Thomas Wallcut, Redford Webster, and William Wetmore, Esq., who have associated for the purposes aforesaid, and have requested an Act of Incorporation, be, and hereby are, formed into and constituted a Society and body politic and corporate, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY; and that they and their successors, and such other persons as shall be legally elected by them, shall be and continue a body politic and corporate, by that name for ever.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the members of said Society shall have power to elect a President, and all other necessary officers; and that the said Society shall have one common seal, and the same may break, change, and renew at pleasure; and that the same Society, by the name aforesaid, as a body politic and corporate, may sue and be sued, prosecute and defend suits to final judgment and execution.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society shall have power to make orders and by-laws for governing its members and property, not repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth; and may expel, disfranchise, or suspend any member, who, by his misconduct, shall be rendered unworthy.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society may, from time to time, establish rules for electing officers and members, and also times and places

for holding meetings ; and shall be capable to take and hold real or personal estate, by gift, grant, devise, or otherwise, and the same, or any part thereof, to alien and convey : *Provided*, That the annual income of any real estate, by said Society holden, shall never exceed the sum of five hundred pounds ; and that the personal estate thereof, besides books, papers, and articles in the Museum of said Society, shall never exceed the value of two thousand pounds.

And be it further enacted, That the members of said Society shall never be more than sixty (except honorary members, residing without the limits of this Commonwealth), and that James Sullivan, Esq., be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered to notify and warn the first meeting of said Society ; and that the same Society, when met, shall agree upon a method for calling future meetings, and may have power to adjourn from time to time, as may be found necessary.

And be it further enacted, That either branch of the Legislature shall and may have free access to the Library and Museum of said Society.

[This Act passed Feb. 19, 1794.].

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIVE.

An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows : —

Sect. 1. — The Massachusetts Historical Society is hereby authorized to hold real and personal estate, in addition to its Library, to an amount not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars.

Sect. 2. — This Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

[This Act passed May 19, 1855.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SEVEN.

An Act in relation to the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows : —

Sect. 1. — Nothing in the Act of Incorporation of the Massachusetts Historical Society shall prevent said Society from electing Associate or Corresponding Members residing without the limits of this Commonwealth, or Honorary Members residing either within or without said limits, or from having as many as one hundred Resident Members, at their discretion.

Sect. 2. — This Act shall take effect from and after its acceptance by said Society.

[This Act passed April 1, 1857.]

BY-LAWS.

CHAPTER I.

OF MEMBERS.

ARTICLE 1. — The Regular or Resident Members of the Society shall be elected from among the citizens of this Commonwealth, and shall cease to be members whenever they cease to be citizens thereof. Honorary and Corresponding Members shall be elected from among those persons who are not citizens of this Commonwealth, and the latter shall cease to be members if at any time they become citizens thereof. Resident Members only shall be entitled to vote or to take part in the business transacted at the meetings of the Society.

ART. 2. — A book shall be kept by the Recording Secretary, in which any Resident Member of the Society may enter the name of any person whom he may regard as suitable to be nominated as a Resident, Corresponding, or Honorary Member; it being understood that each member is bound in honor not to make known abroad the name of any person proposed or nominated. But no nomination of any member shall be made except by a report of the Standing Committee or Council,* at a stated meeting of the Society, nor be acted upon at the same meeting to which it is reported; nor shall more than two candidates for membership, of the same class, be reported at any one meeting.

ART. 3. — Nominations of Corresponding or Honorary Members shall be accompanied by a brief statement, of the place of residence and qualifications of the person nominated.

* The body hitherto called the "Standing Committee" is now called the "Council" of the Society.

Art. 4. — All members shall be elected by ballot; and, in balloting for members, the law and custom of our forefathers shall be observed, by taking the question with Indian corn and beans; the corn expressing *yeas*, and the beans *nays*. But no person shall be deemed chosen, unless there be twenty members present at the election, nor unless three-fourths of all the members present shall have voted affirmatively.

Art. 5. — Each Resident Member shall pay twenty dollars at the time of his admission, and ten dollars annually afterwards, into the treasury of the Society, for its general purposes; but any member shall be exempted from the annual payment, if, at any time after his admission, he shall pay into the treasury one hundred and fifty dollars in addition to what he may before have paid; and all commutation fees shall be funded by the Treasurer, and the interest only used for the current expenses of the Society. Each Resident Member shall be entitled to receive a copy of all the regular publications of the Society, issued after his election, without charge; and all members who have paid the commutation fee shall be entitled to the privilege of the Library, and to copies of the publications, for life, even should their membership cease by removal from the State or by resignation.

Art. 6. — If any person elected as a Resident Member shall neglect, for one year after being notified of his election, to pay his admission-fee, his election shall be void; and, if any Resident Member shall neglect to pay his annual assessment for two years after it shall have become due and his attention shall have been called to this article in the by-laws, he shall cease to be a member; provided, however, it shall be in the power of the Treasurer, with the consent of the President, to dispense (*sub silentio*) with the payment of the assessment, whenever, in any special instance, they may think it advisable to do so. Each person who shall be elected a Resident Member shall, when notified of it, be furnished by the Corresponding Secretary with a copy of this Article and the preceding one.

Art. 7. — Diplomas signed by the President, and countersigned by the two Secretaries, shall be issued to all persons who have become members of the Society.

CHAPTER II.

OF MEETINGS.

Art. 1. — There shall be a Regular Meeting of the Society at eleven o'clock, A.M., on the second Thursday of every month, at their rooms in Boston; provided, however, that the Council shall have authority to postpone any such monthly meeting, or to dispense with it altogether, or to direct it to be held at other rooms, whenever a day of public observance shall happen on the second Thursday of any month, or whenever a different time or place shall, for any cause, be obviously for the convenience of the members. Special meetings shall be called by either of the Secretaries, whenever requested so to do by the President, or, in case of his absence or inability, by one of the Vice-Presidents or by the Council.

Art. 2. — At all meetings, the President shall take the chair in five minutes after the time appointed in the notification; and the record of the preceding meeting shall then be at once read. After which, at all Special Meetings, the special business for which the meeting was called shall be transacted; and, at all Regular Meetings, the order of business shall be as follows: —

First, The Librarian shall make his report.

Second, The Cabinet-keeper shall make his report.

Third, The Corresponding Secretary shall read any communications he may have received.

Fourth, The unfinished business and the assignments of the last meeting shall be taken up in their order.

Fifth, The Council shall be called on to report its doings since the last meeting.

Sixth, Other committees shall be called on for reports.

Seventh, The Society shall then proceed to such matters of business as may be proposed by any member; after

which members generally shall be invited to make any communications on any subject having relation to the purposes of the Society; and, for the orderly accomplishment of this object, the Society shall be divided into three sections, as nearly equal in numbers as may be, each of which, in regular sequence, shall be notified by the Recording Secretary, that the Society, at the next meeting, will receive from it such communications; and the officer presiding at the next meeting shall call upon members of such section to offer any communication; after which, the communication so made, may be discussed by the Society generally.

Art. 3. — Fifteen members shall be a quorum for all purposes except the election of members, as hereinbefore provided; and excepting, also, for alterations of the By-laws, which shall not be made unless twenty persons are present, nor unless the subject has either been discussed at a previous meeting, or reported on by a committee appointed for the purpose.

Art. 4. — At the request of any two members present, any subject proposed for discussion shall be once deferred to a subsequent meeting, before it is finally disposed of.

Art. 5. — All committees shall be nominated by the chair, unless otherwise ordered.

CHAPTER III.

OF OFFICERS.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, who shall be, *ex officio*, Chairman of the Council; two Vice-Presidents; a Recording Secretary, who shall also be, *ex officio*, Secretary of the Council; a Corresponding Secretary; a Treasurer; a Librarian; and a Cabinet-keeper, — all of whom shall be chosen by ballot at the monthly meeting in April, and shall hold their respective offices for one year, or until others are duly chosen in their stead. At the same meeting five members shall

be chosen (no more than two of whom shall hold their places for more than two successive years) who, with the foregoing officers, shall constitute the Standing Committee or Council of the Society; which may fix its own quorum, provided that no nomination of members shall be made to which less than seven of its number shall have assented at a meeting of the Council.

At the regular monthly meeting preceding any election of officers, a Nominating Committee, consisting of three persons, shall be appointed, who shall report to the meeting at which the election is to be made a list of members for the places to be filled.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President shall preside in all meetings of the Society when present, and, when absent, one of the Vice-Presidents in the order of their names. In the absence of all these officers, a President *pro tempore* shall be chosen.

CHAPTER V.

OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

Art. 1. — The Recording Secretary, or, in case of his death or absence, the Corresponding Secretary, shall warn all meetings of the Society, by causing to be sent, through the post-office, to all the Resident Members, notices of each meeting. Notices of the regular meetings shall be issued on the Monday preceding.

Art. 2. — He shall keep an exact record of all the meetings of the Society, with the names of the members present; entering in full all reports of committees that may be accepted by the Society, unless otherwise specially directed,

or unless the same are to be included in the printed proceedings.

See Chap. IX., Art. 6.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

ART. 1. — The Corresponding Secretary shall inform all persons of their election as members of the Society, and on their acceptance shall issue the proper diplomas.

ART. 2. — He shall carry on all the correspondence of the Society not otherwise provided for; and deposit copies of the letters sent and the original letters received, in regular files, in the Library.

CHAPTER VII.

OF THE TREASURER.

ART. 1. — The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due to the Society, and shall keep regular and faithful accounts of all the moneys and funds of the Society that may come into his hands, and of all receipts and expenditures connected with the same, — which accounts shall always be open to the inspection of the members; and, at the regular meeting in April, he shall make a written report of all his doings for the year preceding, and of the amount and condition of all the property of the Society intrusted to him. One week before the monthly meeting in April of each year, he shall give notice to every member of any assessment remaining due from him.

ART. 2. — He shall pay no moneys, except on vote of the Society, or on voucher of an officer or committee acting conformably to its laws or orders.

CHAPTER VIII.

OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS.

At the monthly meeting in March, annually, a Committee shall be appointed by nomination from the chair, consisting of not less than two persons, whose duty it shall be to examine the Treasurer's accounts for the year preceding, and at the monthly meeting in April to report thereon, and on the state of any property of the Society in his hands.

CHAPTER IX.

OF THE LIBRARIAN, AND OF THE LIBRARY.

ART. 1. — The Librarian shall have charge of all the books, tracts, maps, manuscripts, and other property of the Society appropriate to a library; and shall cause to be made, and kept exact and perfect, catalogues of each and all of them, doing whatever may be in his power, at all times, to preserve and increase the collections under his care.

ART. 2. — He shall acknowledge each donation that may be made to the Library, by a certificate addressed to the person making it.

ART. 3. — He shall, at every monthly meeting of the Society, report all donations made to the Library since the last monthly meeting, with the names of the donors; and, at the annual meeting, shall present a statement of the condition and wants of the Library, with a notice of the important accessions that may have been made to it during the year.

ART. 4. — He shall cause to be kept an exact account of all books taken out, with the names of the persons who take them, and the dates when they are borrowed and returned.

Art. 5. — He shall report in writing, at each monthly meeting, the name of every book that has been out of the Library for a longer term than is permitted by the by-laws, and shall use his discretion in obtaining the return of such books.

Art. 6. — He may have an assistant, not a member of the Society, appointed by the Council, who shall aid him in all or any of his duties; who shall also aid the Recording Secretary in notifying meetings, copying reports, or in any other way that may be required, and who shall render such other services to the Society connected with its Library or its general proceedings as the Council may direct.

Art. 7. — The Librarian shall be present in the Library, in person or by his assistant, at the regular hours, and at such other times as may be appointed for keeping it open; and shall endeavor to render it useful to all who may resort to it.

Art. 8. — Any Resident Member of the Society may take from the Library three printed volumes at a time, and keep each of them four weeks, with a right to renew the loan for four weeks more, unless some other member has, in that interval, asked for it in writing; but if he retains it beyond this second period, he must first obtain the written assent of a member of the Council, permitting him to do so, or he shall be fined ten cents a week for each volume so retained.

Art. 9. — All members taking books from the Library shall be answerable for any injury done to the same, to such amount as may be deemed just by the Council; and any person neglecting to pay any fines, or assessments for damages, one month after he shall have received notice of the same from the Librarian, or otherwise abusing his privilege to the injury of the Library, shall, by order of the Council, be interdicted from access to the same.

Art. 10. — At the written request of any Resident Member of this Society, the Librarian shall permit any person to visit and use the Library, at such times as the Librarian may be in attendance; such member becoming thereby responsible for any injury to the property of the Society that may result from such introduction of a stranger.

Art. 11. — At the written request of any Resident Member of the Society, the Librarian shall deliver to any one person indicated in such request, but to no more than one person at the same time, any book or books belonging to the Society, which the member himself could take out; such member, by such request, making himself responsible that all the rules relating to the book or books so taken out shall be as fully observed by the person authorized to receive them as if he were a member; and that any injury accruing to the property of the Society, in consequence of the privilege thus granted, shall be made good by the member at whose request the grant is made.

Art. 12. — At the meetings in April, July, October, and January, the Librarian shall lay before the Society a list of the names of those persons, not members, who, during the preceding three months respectively, may have had access to the Library by permission of individual members of the Society, with the names of the members at whose request the privilege was granted; adding a statement of each injury that may have been sustained by the property of the Society, in consequence of granting such permission, and the name of the member bound to make it good.

Art. 13. — The Publishing Committee, for the time being, shall be permitted to take such books and manuscripts from the Library as they may need, in order to perform the duty assigned to them by the Society; but the Librarian shall make a record of whatever is so taken, and, as soon as the volume they may have in charge is published, he shall require the return of the same.

Art. 14. — All manuscripts of the Society shall be kept under lock and key, and be used only in presence of the Librarian or his assistant.

Art. 15. — Persons not members of the Society, engaged in historical pursuits, shall be allowed to consult the manuscripts belonging to the Society, provided an application in writing, stating the object of the inquiry, be first made to the Librarian, who shall make record of the same.

Art. 16. — No manuscript, and no part of a manuscript, belonging to the Society, shall be copied, except on permis-

sion granted by the Council, after an application in writing, specifying the manuscript, or part thereof, desired to be copied; and if any manuscript belonging to the Society shall, in consequence of such permission, be published, in whole or in part, the fact that it was obtained from the Society shall be required to be stated in its publication. But nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the publication of names, dates, and other chronological memoranda, without special permission.

Art. 17. — Manuscripts of a confidential nature shall be retained in a place of special deposit, and shall be consulted only under such regulations as may be prescribed in each case by vote of the Society.

Art. 18. — No maps, newspapers, or books, either of great rarity or of constant reference, shall be taken from the Library, except by vote of the Society.

Art. 19. — All tracts, books, maps, and manuscripts belonging to the Society, shall be distinctly marked as its property; and any such tract, book, &c., that may be presented to the Society shall be marked with the name of the donor, and recorded as his gift.

Art. 20. — The Library shall be open on all week-days, from nine o'clock in the forenoon till sunset (but not later than six o'clock), throughout the year, except on the afternoons of Saturdays, and on days of public observance, and also during the fortnight before the annual meeting in April, when it shall be closed for examination; and all books that may be lent are hereby required to be returned previous to that fortnight, under a penalty of a fine of one dollar for each volume not so returned.

CHAPTER X.

RULES FOR THE DOWSE LIBRARY.

Art. 1. — The room in which the books are deposited which were presented to the Society by Thomas Dowse

shall be known for ever as the Dowse Library of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Art. 2. — Agreeably to the condition prescribed by Mr. Dowse, no book shall be taken out of this room.

Art. 3. — Books may be used in the room by members of the Society, and by others introduced by them in person; but no book shall be taken from the cases except by members, or by the Librarian's assistant, who shall cause each book to be returned to its proper place immediately after it has been used.

Art. 4. — Meetings of the Society may be held in the Dowse Library, at the discretion of the Council; but the room shall not be used for any other meetings.

CHAPTER XI.

OF THE CABINET-KEEPER, AND THE MUSEUM.

Art. 1. — The Cabinet-keeper shall have charge of all coins, works of art, remains of antiquity, and other articles appropriate to the Society's Museum, and shall make and keep perfect and exact catalogues of the same.

Art. 2. — He shall acknowledge each donation he may receive, by letter, to the person making it. At every monthly meeting of the Society, he shall report whatever may have been added to the collection of which he has charge, with the names of the donors; and, at the annual meeting, shall present a full report of the condition of the Museum.

CHAPTER XII.

OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OR COUNCIL.

Art. 1. — The Standing Committee or "Council," as vacancies occur in the Society by death or otherwise, shall,

at their discretion, report nominations for Resident Members to fill the same.

Art. 2. — They shall pay the current expenses of the Society, drawing on the Treasurer, from time to time, for such sums as may be necessary for that purpose.

Art. 3. — They shall annually, in the month of April, make a careful examination of the Library and Museum of the Society, and also of the Dowse Library; comparing the books, manuscripts, and other articles in each, with their catalogues, respectively, and reporting at the April meeting, in detail, concerning their condition.

Art. 4. — They shall record in full, in a book kept by them for the purpose, any permission granted by any one of their number for the consultation of the manuscripts of the Society, by persons not members.

Art. 5. — They shall meet in the Society's rooms on the Monday previous to every regular meeting, at such hour as they may agree upon, and at such other times as the Chairman shall call them together, for the fulfilment of their appropriate duties, and for the purpose of facilitating the transaction of such business as will be brought before the Society; and for making such arrangements as may be expedient for securing the communication of historical papers.

Art. 6. — They shall, at every meeting, report to the Society all their doings since the last meeting, suggesting at the same time such business as they may deem advisable to bring before it.

CHAPTER XIII.

OF THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

Art. 1. — Immediately after the publication of any volume of the Collections of the Society, or at any other time when the Society may order, a Committee of not less than three persons shall be appointed by nomination from the chair, whose duty it shall be to prepare and publish another

volume; for which purpose, free use is granted to them of all the manuscripts, printed books, and other resources of the Society, except the manuscripts deposited as confidential; said Committee being required hereby to return whatever they may have thus received, so soon as their use of the same for the purposes of such publication shall have ceased.

In every publication that shall be made from the income of the Appleton Fund, or of the Peabody Fund, there shall be inserted in each volume a statement in print, that it was made at the charge of that fund which bears the expense of the publication.

Art. 2. — The Recording Secretary, and two other members to be appointed by the President, shall constitute a Committee, with full power to provide for occasional reports, as well as for the permanent publication of the proceedings of the Society, subject to the following limitations: —

First, Neither the remarks nor the name of any member shall be introduced into any report without his permission.

Second, All papers read or remarks made by any member, which such member shall desire or be willing to have printed, shall be submitted to the above-named Committee for the purpose, and shall be subject to their discretion: provided, however, that any member may publish, on his own responsibility, any paper or remarks of his own which the Committe may not think fit to include in their report; it being understood that, in such case, the name of the Society is not to be used in any way whatever in connection with such publication.

THE

ACT OF INCORPORATION,

WITH THE ADDITIONAL ACTS

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY;

WITH A LIST OF

OFFICERS AND RESIDENT MEMBERS.

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WITH A LIST OF

OFFICERS AND RESIDENT MEMBERS.

BOSTON:
PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY.
1882.

Massachusetts Historical Society.

The following By-Laws were revised and adopted by the Society, at the monthly meeting in December, 1881. The Officers were elected April, 1881.

Attest: GEORGE DEXTER,

Recording Secretary.

Boston, Dec. 24, 1881.

University Press:
John Wilson and Son, Cambridge.

OFFICERS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ELECTED APRIL 8, 1881.

President.

HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, LL.D. . . . . BOSTON.

Vice-Presidents.

REV. GEORGE E. ELLIS, D.D. . . . . BOSTON.
CHARLES DEANE, LL.D. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

Recording Secretary.

GEORGE DEXTER, A.M. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

Corresponding Secretary.

JUSTIN WINSOR, A.B. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

Treasurer.

CHARLES C. SMITH, ESQ. . . . . BOSTON.

Librarian.

SAMUEL A. GREEN, M.D. . . . . BOSTON.

Cabinet-Keeper.

FITCH EDWARD OLIVER, M.D. . . . . BOSTON.

Executive Committee of the Council.

DELANO A. GODDARD, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.
GEORGE B. CHASE, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.
HENRY CABOT LODGE, PH.D. . . . . NAHANT.
REV. PHILLIPS BROOKS, D.D. . . . . BOSTON.
HENRY W. HAYNES, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.

RESIDENT MEMBERS,

AT THE DATE OF THE PRINTING OF THIS BOOK IN THE ORDER OF THEIR ELECTION.

Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, LL.D.
Hon. Charles Francis Adams, LL.D.
Rev. George E. Ellis, D.D.
Hon. Peleg W. Chandler, LL.D.
Rev. George W. Blagden, D.D.
Rev. Lucius R. Paige, D.D.
Rev. Chandler Robbins, D.D.
John Langdon Sibley, A.M.
Henry Wheatland, M.D.
Charles Deane, LL.D.
Francis Parkman, LL.B.
Ellis Ames, A.B.
Rev. Samuel K. Lothrop, D.D.
Oliver Wendell Holmes, LL.D.
Henry W. Longfellow, LL.D.
Hon. Stephen Salisbury, LL.D.
Henry Austin Whitney, A.M.
Rev. William S. Bartlet, A.M.
Leverett Saltonstall, A.M.
Hon. Richard H. Dana, LL.D.
Henry W. Torrey, LL.D.
Williams Latham, A.B.
Rev. Robert C. Waterston, A.M.
Thomas C. Amory, A.M.
Hon. Samuel A. Green, M.D.
Hon. James M. Robbins.
Charles Eliot Norton, A.M.
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Robert Bennett Forbes, Esq.
Rev. Edward E. Hale, D.D.
Rev. Andrew P. Peabody, LL.D.
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Amos A. Lawrence, A.M.
Rev. Edwards A. Park, D.D.
Hon. Francis E. Parker, LL.B.
William H. Whitmore, A.M.
Hon. James Russell Lowell, LL.D.
Rev. Nicholas Hoppin, D.D.
Nathaniel Thayer, A.M.
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Josiah P. Quincy, A.M.
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Charles C. Smith, Esq.
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Theodore Lyman, S.B.
Abner C. Goodell, A.M.
William Amory, A.M.
Edward D. Harris, Esq.
Ralph Waldo Emerson, LL.D.
Augustus T. Perkins, A.M.
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Winslow Warren, LL.B.
Francis W. Palfrey, A.M.
Charles W. Eliot, LL.D.

William Gray, A.M.
Delano A. Goddard, A.M.
Rev. Henry W. Foote, A.M.
Charles C. Perkins, A.M.
Charles F. Dunbar, A.B.
Hon. Charles Devens, LL.D.
Charles F. Adams, Jr., A.B.
William P. Upham, A.B.
Hon. A. H. Bullock, LL.D.
Fitch Edward Oliver, M.D.
William Everett, Ph.D.
George B. Chase, A.M.
Henry Cabot Lodge, Ph.D.
John T. Morse, Jr., A.B.
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George Dexter, A.M.
Hon. Gustavus Vasa Fox.
Henry Lee, A.M.
Gamaliel Bradford, A.B.

Rev. Edward J. Young, A.M.
Hon. John Lowell, LL.D.
Abbott Lawrence, A.M.
Rev. James Freeman Clarke, D.D.
Rev. Phillips Brooks, D D.
William W. Greenough, A.B.
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Henry W. Haynes, A.M.
Thomas W. Higginson, A.M.
Rev. Edward G. Porter, A.M.
John C. Ropes, LL.B.
Paul A. Chadbourne, LL.D.
Rev. Henry F. Jenks, A.M.
Hon. Samuel C. Cobb.
Horace E. Scudder, A.M.
Rev. Edmund F. Slafter, A.M.
Stephen Salisbury, Jr., A.M.
John T. Hassam, A.M.
Rev. Alexander McKenzie, D.D.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-FOUR.

An Act to incorporate a Society, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Whereas the collection and preservation of materials for a political and natural history of the United States is a desirable object, and the institution of a Society for those purposes will be of public utility, —

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That William Baylies, Esq., Jeremy Belknap, D.D., the Rev. Alden Bradford, Peleg Coffin, Esq., Manasseh Cutler, D.D., John Davis, Esq., Daniel Davis, Esq., Aaron Dexter, Doctor in Physic, the Rev. John Eliot, Nathaniel Freeman, Esq., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, Isaac Lothrop, Esq., George Richards Minot, Esq., the Rev. John Mellen, Jr., Thomas Pemberton, William Dandridge Peck, the Rev. John Prince, Ezekiel Price, Esq., James Sullivan, Esq., David Sewall, Esq., Peter Thacher, D.D., William Tudor, Esq., Samuel Turell, Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq., James Winthrop, Esq., Thomas Wallcut, Redford Webster, and William Wetmore, Esq., who have associated for the purposes aforesaid, and have requested an Act of Incorporation, be, and hereby are, formed into and constituted a Society and body politic and corporate, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY; and that they and their successors, and such other persons as shall be legally elected by them, shall be and continue a body politic and corporate, by that name for ever.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the members of said Society shall have power to elect a President, and all other necessary officers; and that the said Society shall have one common seal, and the same may break, change, and renew at pleasure; and that the same Society, by the name aforesaid, as a body politic and corporate, may sue and be sued, prosecute and defend suits to final judgment and execution.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society shall have power to make orders and by-laws for governing its members and property, not repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth; and may expel, disfranchise, or suspend any member, who, by his misconduct, shall be rendered unworthy.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society may, from time to time, establish rules for electing officers and members, and also times and places

for holding meetings; and shall be capable to take and hold real or personal estate, by gift, grant, devise, or otherwise, and the same, or any part thereof, to alien and convey: *Provided*, That the annual income of any real estate, by said Society holden, shall never exceed the sum of five hundred pounds; and that the personal estate thereof, besides books, papers, and articles in the Museum of said Society, shall never exceed the value of two thousand pounds.

And be it further enacted, That the members of said Society shall never be more than sixty (except honorary members, residing without the limits of this Commonwealth), and that James Sullivan, Esq., be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered to notify and warn the first meeting of said Society; and that the same Society, when met, shall agree upon a method for calling future meetings, and may have power to adjourn from time to time, as may be found necessary.

And be it further enacted, That either branch of the Legislature shall and may have free access to the Library and Museum of said Society.

[This Act passed Feb. 19, 1794.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIVE.

An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: —

SECT. 1. — The Massachusetts Historical Society is hereby authorized to hold real and personal estate, in addition to its Library, to an amount not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars.

SECT. 2. — This Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

[This Act passed May 21, 1855.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SEVEN.

An Act in relation to the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: —

SECT. 1. — Nothing in the Act of Incorporation of the Massachusetts Historical Society shall prevent said Society from electing Associate or Corresponding Members residing without the limits of this Commonwealth, or Honorary Members residing either within or without said limits, or from having as many as one hundred Resident Members, at their discretion.

SECT. 2. — This Act shall take effect from and after its acceptance by said Society.

[This Act passed April 2, 1857.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN.

An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: —

Sect. 1. — The Massachusetts Historical Society is hereby authorized to hold real and personal estate in addition to its Library to an amount of three hundred thousand dollars.

Sect. 2. — This Act shall take effect upon its passage.

[This Act passed Feb. 16, 1877.]

BY-LAWS.

CHAPTER I.

OF MEMBERS.

ARTICLE 1. — The Regular or Resident Members of the Society shall be elected from among the citizens of this Commonwealth, and shall cease to be members whenever they cease to be citizens thereof. Honorary and Corresponding Members shall be elected from among those persons who are not citizens of this Commonwealth, and the latter shall cease to be members if at any time they become citizens thereof. Resident Members only shall be entitled to vote or to take part in the business transacted at the meetings of the Society.

ART. 2. — A book shall be kept by the Recording Secretary, in which any Resident Member of the Society may enter the name of any person whom he may regard as suitable to be nominated as a Resident, Corresponding, or Honorary Member; it being understood that each member is bound in honor not to make known abroad the name of any person either proposed or nominated. But no nomination of any member shall be made except by a report of the Council, at a stated meeting of the Society, nor be acted upon at the same meeting to which it is reported; nor shall more than two candidates for membership, of the same class, be reported at any one meeting.

ART. 3. — Nominations of Corresponding or of Honorary Members shall be accompanied by a brief statement of the place of residence and qualifications of the person nominated.

ART. 4. — All members shall be elected by ballot; and, in balloting for members, the law and custom of our forefathers

shall be observed, by taking the question with Indian corn and beans; the corn expressing *yeas*, and the beans *nays*. But no person shall be deemed chosen, unless there be twenty members present and voting at the election, nor unless three-fourths of all the votes are in the affirmative.

Art. 5. — Each Resident Member shall pay twenty-five dollars at the time of his admission, and ten dollars each first of January afterward, into the treasury of the Society, for its general purposes; but any member shall be exempted from the annual payment, if, at any time after his admission, he shall pay into the treasury one hundred and fifty dollars in addition to what he may before have paid; and all commutation fees shall be funded by the Treasurer, and the interest only used for the current expenses of the Society. Each Resident Member shall be entitled to receive a copy of all the regular publications of the Society, issued after his election, without charge; and all members who have paid the commutation fee shall be entitled to the privilege of the Library, and to copies of the publications, for life, even should their membership cease by removal from the State or by resignation.

Art. 6. — If any person elected as a Resident Member shall neglect, for one year after being notified of his election, to pay his admission-fee, his election shall be void; and, if any Resident Member shall neglect to pay his annual assessment for two years after it shall have become due and his attention shall have been called to this article in the By-laws, he shall cease to be a member; provided, however, it shall be in the power of the Treasurer, with the consent of the President, to dispense (*sub silentio*) with the payment of the assessment, whenever, in any special instance, they may think it advisable to do so. Each person who shall be elected a Resident Member shall, when notified of it, be furnished by the Corresponding Secretary with a copy of this Article and the preceding one.

Art. 7. — Diplomas signed by the President, and countersigned by the two Secretaries, shall be issued to all persons who have become members of the Society.

CHAPTER II.

OF MEETINGS.

ART. 1. — There shall be a Regular Meeting of the Society on the second Thursday of every month, at three o'clock P.M., at their rooms in Boston; provided, however, that the Council shall have authority to postpone any such monthly meeting, or to dispense with it altogether, or to direct it to be held at other rooms, or at another hour, whenever, for any cause, they may deem it desirable or expedient. Special meetings shall be called by either of the Secretaries, whenever requested so to do by the President, or, in case of his absence or inability, by one of the Vice-Presidents or by the Council.

ART. 2. — At all meetings, the President shall take the chair in five minutes after the time appointed in the notification; and the record of the preceding meeting shall then be at once read. After which, at all Special Meetings, the special business for which the meeting was called shall be transacted; and, at all Regular Meetings, the order of business shall be as follows: —

First, The Librarian shall make his report.

Second, The Cabinet-keeper shall make his report.

Third, The Corresponding Secretary shall read any communications he may have received.

Fourth, The unfinished business and the assignments of the last meeting shall be taken up in their order.

Fifth, The Council shall be called on to report its doings since the last meeting.

Sixth, Other committees shall be called on for reports.

Seventh, The Society shall then proceed to such matters of business as may be proposed by any member; after which members generally shall be invited to make any communications on any subject having relation to the purposes of the Society; and, for the orderly accomplishment of this object, the Society shall be divided into three sections, as nearly

equal in numbers as may be, each of which, in regular sequence, shall be notified by the Recording Secretary, that the Society, at the next meeting, will receive from it such communications; and the officer presiding at the next meeting shall call upon members of such section to offer any communication; after which, the communication so made may be discussed by the Society generally.

ART. 3. — Fifteen members shall be a quorum for all purposes except the election of members, as hereinbefore provided; and excepting, also, for alterations of the By-laws, which shall not be made unless twenty persons are present, nor unless the subject has either been discussed at a previous meeting, or reported on by a committee appointed for the purpose.

ART. 4. — At the request of any two members present, any subject proposed for discussion shall be once deferred to a subsequent meeting, before it is finally disposed of.

ART. 5. — All committees shall be nominated by the chair, unless otherwise ordered.

CHAPTER III.

OF OFFICERS.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, who shall be, *ex officio*, Chairman of the Council; two Vice-Presidents; a Recording Secretary, who shall also be, *ex officio*, Secretary of the Council; a Corresponding Secretary; a Treasurer; a Librarian; and a Cabinet-keeper, — all of whom shall be chosen by ballot at the monthly meeting in April, and shall hold their respective offices for one year, or until others are duly chosen in their stead. At the same meeting five members shall be chosen (no more than two of whom shall hold their places for more than two successive years) who, with the foregoing officers, shall constitute the Council of the Society; which may fix its own quorum, provided that no

nomination of members shall be made to which less than seven of its number shall have assented at a meeting of the Council.

At the regular monthly meeting preceding any election of officers, a Nominating Committee, consisting of three persons, shall be appointed, who shall report to the meeting at which the election is to be made a list of members for the places to be filled.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President shall preside in all meetings of the Society when present, and, when absent, one of the Vice-Presidents, in the order of their names. In the absence of all these officers, a President *pro tempore* shall be chosen.

CHAPTER V.

OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

ART. 1. — The Recording Secretary, or, in case of his death or absence, the Corresponding Secretary, shall warn all meetings of the Society, by causing to be sent, through the post-office, to all the Resident Members, notices of each meeting. Notices of the regular meetings shall be issued on the Monday preceding.

ART. 2. — He shall keep an exact record of all the meetings of the Society, with the names of the members present; entering in full all reports of committees that may be accepted by the Society, unless otherwise specially directed, or unless the same are to be included in the printed Proceedings.

See Chap. IX., Art. 6.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

ART. 1. — The Corresponding Secretary shall inform all persons of their election as members of the Society, sending to each a copy of the By-laws, and on their acceptance shall issue the proper diplomas.

ART. 2. — He shall carry on all the correspondence of the Society not otherwise provided for; and deposit copies of the letters sent and the original letters received, in regular files, in the Library.

CHAPTER VII.

OF THE TREASURER.

ART. 1. — The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due to the Society, and shall keep regular and faithful accounts of all the moneys and funds of the Society that may come into his hands, and of all receipts and expenditures connected with the same, — which accounts shall always be open to the inspection of the members; and, at the regular meeting in April, he shall make a written report of all his doings for the year preceding, and of the amount and condition of all the property of the Society intrusted to him. One week before the monthly meeting in April of each year, he shall give notice to every member of any assessment remaining due from him.

ART. 2. — He shall pay no moneys, except on vote of the Society, or of the Council, or on voucher of an officer or committee acting conformably to its laws or orders.

CHAPTER VIII.

OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS.

At the monthly meeting in March, annually, a Committee shall be appointed by nomination from the chair, consisting

of not less than two persons, whose duty it shall be to examine the Treasurer's accounts for the year preceding, and at the monthly meeting in April to report thereon, and on the state of any property of the Society in his hands.

CHAPTER IX.

OF THE LIBRARIAN, AND OF THE LIBRARY.

ART. 1. — The Librarian shall have charge of all the books, tracts, maps, manuscripts, and other property of the Society appropriate to a library; and shall cause to be made, and kept exact and perfect, catalogues of each and all of them, doing whatever may be in his power, at all times, to preserve and increase the collections under his care.

ART. 2. — He shall acknowledge each donation that may be made to the Library, by a certificate addressed to the person making it.

ART. 3. — He shall, at every monthly meeting of the Society, report all donations made to the Library since the last monthly meeting, with the names of the donors; and, at the annual meeting, shall present a statement of the condition and wants of the Library, with a notice of the important accessions that may have been made to it during the year.

ART. 4. — He shall cause to be kept an exact account of all books taken out, with the names of the persons who take them, and the dates when they are borrowed and returned.

ART. 5. — He shall report in writing, at each monthly meeting, the name of every book that has been out of the Library for a longer term than is permitted by the By-laws, and shall use his discretion in obtaining the return of such books.

ART. 6. — He may have one or more assistants, not members of the Society, appointed by the Council, who shall aid him in all or any of his duties; who shall also aid the Recording Secretary in notifying meetings, copying reports, or in any other way that may be required, and who shall render

such other services to the Society connected with its Library or its general proceedings as the Council may direct.

ART. 7. — The Librarian shall be present in the Library, in person or by an assistant, at the regular hours, and at such other times as may be appointed for keeping it open; and shall endeavor to render it useful to all who may resort to it.

ART. 8. — Any Resident Member of the Society may take from the Library three printed volumes at a time, and keep each of them four weeks, with a right to renew the loan for four weeks more, unless some other member has, in that interval, asked for it in writing; but if he retains it beyond this second period, he must first obtain the written assent of a member of the Council, permitting him to do so, or he shall be fined ten cents a week for each volume so retained.

ART. 9. — All members taking books from the Library shall be answerable for any injury done to the same, to such amount as may be deemed just by the Council; and any person neglecting to pay any fines, or assessments for damages, one month after he shall have received notice of the same from the Librarian, or otherwise abusing his privilege to the injury of the Library, shall, by order of the Council, be interdicted from access to the same.

ART. 10. — At the written request of any Resident Member of this Society, the Librarian shall permit any person to visit and use the Library, at such times as the Librarian may be in attendance; such member becoming thereby responsible for any injury to the property of the Society that may result from such introduction of a stranger.

ART. 11. — At the written request of any Resident Member of the Society, the Librarian shall deliver to any one person indicated in such request, but to no more than one person at the same time, any book or books belonging to the Society, which the member himself could take out; such member, by such request, making himself responsible that all the rules relating to the book or books so taken out shall be as fully observed by the person authorized to receive them as if he were a member; and that any injury accruing to the property of the Society, in consequence of the privilege thus granted,

shall be made good by the member at whose request the grant is made.

Art. 12. — At the meetings in April, July, October, and January, the Librarian shall lay before the Society a list of the names of those persons, not members, who, during the preceding three months respectively, may have had access to the Library by permission of individual members of the Society, with the names of the members at whose request the privilege was granted; adding a statement of each injury that may have been sustained by the property of the Society, in consequence of granting such permission, and the name of the member bound to make it good.

Art. 13. — The Publishing Committee, for the time being, shall be permitted to take such books and manuscripts from the Library as they may need, in order to perform the duty assigned to them by the Society; but the Librarian shall make a record of whatever is so taken, and, as soon as the volume they may have in charge is published, he shall require the return of the same.

Art. 14. — All manuscripts of the Society shall be kept under lock and key, and be used only in presence of the Librarian or an assistant.

Art. 15. — Persons not members of the Society, engaged in historical pursuits, shall be allowed to consult the manuscripts belonging to the Society, provided an application in writing, stating the object of the inquiry, be first made to the Librarian, who shall make record of the same.

Art. 16. — No manuscript, and no part of a manuscript, belonging to the Society, shall be copied, except on permission granted by the Council, after an application in writing, specifying the manuscript, or part thereof, desired to be copied; and if any manuscript belonging to the Society shall, in consequence of such permission, be published, in whole or in part, the fact that it was obtained from the Society shall be required to be stated in its publication. But nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the publication of names, dates, and other chronological memoranda, without special permission.

ART. 17. — Manuscripts of a confidential nature shall be retained in a place of special deposit, and shall be consulted only under such regulations as may be prescribed in each case by vote of the Society.

ART. 18. — No maps, newspapers, or books of great rarity or of constant reference, shall be taken from the Library, except by vote of the Society.

ART. 19. — All tracts, books, maps, and manuscripts belonging to the Society, shall be distinctly marked as its property; and any such tract, book, &c., that may be presented to the Society shall be marked with the name of the donor, and recorded as his gift.

ART. 20. — The Library shall be open on all week-days, from nine o'clock in the forenoon till sunset (but not later than six o'clock), throughout the year, except on the afternoons of Saturdays, and on days of public observance, and also during the fortnight before the annual meeting in April, when it shall be closed for examination; and all books that may be lent are hereby required to be returned previous to that fortnight, under a penalty of a fine of one dollar for each volume not so returned.

CHAPTER X.

RULES FOR THE DOWSE LIBRARY.

ART. 1. — The room in which the books are deposited which were presented to the Society by Thomas Dowse shall be known forever as the DOWSE LIBRARY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ART. 2. — Agreeably to the condition prescribed by Mr. Dowse, no book shall be taken out of this room.

ART. 3. — Books may be used in the room by members of the Society, and by others introduced by them in person; but no book shall be taken from the cases except by members, or by the Librarian's assistant, who shall cause each book to be

returned to its proper place immediately after it has been used.

Art. 4. — Meetings of the Society may be held in the Dowse Library, at the discretion of the Council; but the room shall not be used for any other meetings.

CHAPTER XI.

OF THE CABINET-KEEPER, AND THE MUSEUM.

Art. 1. — The Cabinet-keeper shall have charge of all coins, works of art, remains of antiquity, and other articles appropriate to the Society's Museum, and shall make and keep perfect and exact catalogues of the same.

Art. 2. — He shall acknowledge each donation he may receive, by letter, to the person making it. At every monthly meeting of the Society, he shall report whatever may have been added to the collection of which he has charge, with the names of the donors; and, at the annual meeting, shall present a full report of the condition of the Museum.

CHAPTER XII.

OF THE COUNCIL.

Art. 1. — The Council, as vacancies occur in the Society by death or otherwise, shall, at their discretion, report nominations for Resident Members to fill the same.

Art. 2. — They shall engage whatever assistance is needed to administer the Library, and shall pay the current expenses of the Society, drawing on the Treasurer, from time to time, for such sums as may be necessary for that purpose.

Art. 3. — They shall annually, in the month of April, make a careful examination of the Library and Museum of the Society, and also of the Dowse Library; comparing the books,

manuscripts, and other articles in each, with their catalogues, respectively, and reporting at the April meeting, in detail, concerning their condition.

Art. 4. — They shall record in full, in a book kept by them for the purpose, any permission granted by any one of their number for the consultation of the manuscripts of the Society, by persons not members.

Art. 5. — They shall meet in the Society's rooms within one week previous to every regular meeting, on such day and at such hour as they may agree upon, and at such other times as the Chairman shall call them together, for the fulfilment of their appropriate duties, and for the purpose of facilitating the transaction of such business as will be brought before the Society; and for making such arrangements as may be expedient for securing the communication of historical papers.

Art. 6. — They shall, at every meeting, report to the Society all their doings since the last meeting, suggesting at the same time such business as they may deem advisable to bring before it.

Art. 7. — On the death of a Resident Member, they shall, at the next meeting of the Society, report, through the President, a nomination of a person to prepare a memoir of the deceased for the Proceedings.

Art. 8. — They shall have authority to appoint such sub-committees of their number as they shall think expedient, to facilitate the administration of the Society's affairs.

Art. 9. — They shall make an annual report, to be drawn up by that one of the members at large who has had the longest term of service.

CHAPTER XIII.

OF THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

Art. 1. — Immediately after the publication of any volume of the Collections of the Society, or at any other time when the Society may order, a Committee of not less than three

persons shall be appointed by nomination from the chair, whose duty it shall be to prepare and publish another volume; for which purpose they are authorized to draw on the Treasurer, and free use is granted to them of all the manuscripts, printed books, and other resources of the Society, except the manuscripts deposited as confidential; said Committee being required hereby to return whatever they may have thus received, so soon as their use of the same for the purposes of such publication shall have ceased.

In every publication that shall be made from the income of the Appleton, the Peabody, or other publishing fund, there shall be inserted in each volume a statement in print, that it was made at the charge of that fund which bears the expense of the publication.

Art. 2. — The Recording Secretary, and two other members to be appointed at the annual meeting by the President, shall constitute a Committee, with full power to provide for occasional reports, as well as for the permanent publication of the Proceedings of the Society, subject to the following limitations: —

First, Neither the remarks nor the name of any member shall be introduced into any report without his permission.

Second, All papers read or remarks made by any member, which such member shall desire or be willing to have printed, shall be submitted to the above-named Committee for the purpose, and shall be subject to their discretion: provided, however, that any member may publish, on his own responsibility, any paper or remarks of his own which the Committee may not think fit to include in their report; it being understood that, in such case, the name of the Society is not to be used in any way whatever in connection with such publication.

THE

ACT OF INCORPORATION,

WITH THE ADDITIONAL ACTS

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY;

AND A LIST OF

OFFICERS AND RESIDENT MEMBERS,

AUGUST, 1897.

THE

ACT OF INCORPORATION,

WITH THE ADDITIONAL ACTS

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY;

AND A LIST OF

OFFICERS AND RESIDENT MEMBERS,

AUGUST, 1897.

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1897.

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August, 1897.

University Press:
John Wilson and Son, Cambridge.

OFFICERS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

ELECTED APRIL 8, 1897.

President.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, LL.D. . . . . LINCOLN.

Vice-Presidents.

JUSTIN WINSOR, LL.D. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.
HON. SAMUEL A. GREEN, LL.D. . . . . BOSTON.

Recording Secretary.

REV. EDWARD J. YOUNG, D.D. . . . . WALTHAM.

Corresponding Secretary.

HENRY W. HAYNES, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.

Treasurer.

CHARLES C. SMITH, A.M. . . . . BOSTON.

Librarian.

HON. SAMUEL A. GREEN, LL.D. . . . . BOSTON.

Cabinet-Keeper.

SAMUEL F. McCLEARY, A.M. . . . . BROOKLINE.

Members-at-Large of the Council.

THORNTON K. LOTHROP, LL.B. . . . . BOSTON.
ABBOTT LAWRENCE LOWELL, LL.B. . . . . BOSTON.
HON. CHARLES R. CODMAN, LL.B. . . . . COTUIT.
HON. WILLIAM W. CRAPO, LL.D. . . . . NEW BEDFORD.
WILLIAM R. THAYER, A.M. . . . . CAMBRIDGE.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

1860.

Hon. Samuel Abbott Green, LL.D.
Charles Eliot Norton, LL.D.

1861.

Rev. Edward Everett Hale, D.D.
Hon. Horace Gray, LL.D.
Rev. Edwards Amasa Park, LL.D.

1863.

William Henry Whitmore, A.M.

1864.

Hon. William Crowninshield Endicott, LL.D.

1865.

Samuel Eliot, LL.D.
Josiah Phillips Quincy, A.M.

1866.

Henry Gardner Denny, A.M.

1867.

Charles Card Smith, A.M.

1869.

William Sumner Appleton, A.M.
Hon. Theodore Lyman, LL.D.

1871.

Abner Cheney Goodell, Jr., A.M.
Edward Doubleday Harris, Esq.

1873.

Hon. Mellen Chamberlain, LL.D.
Winslow Warren, LL.B.
Charles William Eliot, LL.D.

1875.

Charles Franklin Dunbar, LL.D.
Charles Francis Adams, LL.D.
William Phineas Upham, A.B.

1876.

Hon. William Everett, LL.D.
George Bigelow Chase, A.M.
Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge, LL.D.

1877.

John Torrey Morse, Jr., A.B.
Justin Winsor, LL.D.
James Elliot Cabot, LL.D.

1878.

Henry Lee, A.M.
Gamaliel Bradford, A.B.
Rev. Edward James Young, D.D.

1879.

William Whitwell Greenough, A.B.
Robert Charles Winthrop, Jr., A.M.
Henry Williamson Haynes, A.M.

1880.

Thomas Wentworth Higginson, LL.D.
Rev. Edward Griffin Porter, A.M.
John Codman Ropes, LL.B.

1881.

Rev. Henry Fitch Jenks, A.M.
Horace Elisha Scudder, Litt. D.
Rev. Edmund Farwell Slafter, D.D.
Hon. Stephen Salisbury, A.M.

John Tyler Hassam, A.M.
Rev. Alexander McKenzie, D.D.

1882.

Arthur Lord, A.B.
Arthur Blake Ellis, LL.B.
Clement Hugh Hill, A.M.
Frederick Ward Putnam, A.M.
James McKellar Bugbee, Esq.
Hon. John Davis Washburn, LL.B.
Rev. Egbert Coffin Smyth, D.D.

1883.

Rev. Arthur Latham Perry, LL.D.

1884.

Hon. John Elliot Sanford, LL.D.
Uriel Haskell Crocker, LL.B.
Hon. Roger Wolcott, LL.D.
Edward Channing, Ph.D.

1886.

Samuel Foster McCleary, A.M.
William Watson Goodwin, D.C.L.
Hon. George Frisbie Hoar, LL.D.
Rev. Alexander Viets Griswold Allen, D.D.

1887.

Charles Greely Loring, A.M.
Solomon Lincoln, A.M.
Edwin Pliny Seaver, A.M.

1889.

Albert Bushnell Hart, Ph.D.
Thornton Kirkland Lothrop, LL.B.
James Bradley Thayer, LL.D.
Hon. Henry Stedman Nourse, A.M.

1890.

Henry Fitz-Gilbert Waters, A.M.
Abbott Lawrence Lowell, LL.B.

1891.

Rev. Samuel Edward Herrick, D.D.
Hon. Oliver Wendell Holmes, LL.D.
Henry Pickering Walcott, M.D.

1892.

John Fiske, LL.D.
George Spring Merriam, A.M.

1893.

Edward Lillie Pierce, LL.D.
Hon. Charles Russell Codman, LL.B.
Barrett Wendell, A.B.
James Ford Rhodes, LL.D.

1894.

Hon. Edward Francis Johnson, LL.B.
Hon. Walbridge Abner Field, LL.D.
Henry Walbridge Taft, A.M.
Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, D.D.
William Roscoe Thayer, A.M.

1895.

Rev. Morton Dexter, A.M.
Hon. Thomas Jefferson Coolidge, A.M.
Hon. William Wallace Crapo, LL.D.

1896.

Francis Cabot Lowell, A.B.
Granville Stanley Hall, LL.D.
Alexander Agassiz, LL.D.
Hon. James Madison Barker, LL.D.
Lieut.-Col. Theodore Ayrault Dodge.

1897.

Thomas Corwin Mendenhall, LL.D.
Leverett Wilson Spring, D.D.
Major William Roscoe Livermore.
Richard Olney, LL.D.
Lucien Carr, Esq.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-FOUR.

An Act to incorporate a Society, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Whereas the collection and preservation of materials for a political and natural history of the United States is a desirable object, and the institution of a Society for those purposes will be of public utility, —

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That William Baylies, Esq., Jeremy Belknap, D.D., the Rev. Alden Bradford, Peleg Coffin, Esq., Manasseh Cutler, D.D., John Davis, Esq., Daniel Davis, Esq., Aaron Dexter, Doctor in Physic, the Rev. John Eliot, Nathaniel Freeman, Esq., the Rev. James Freeman, the Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, Isaac Lothrop, Esq., George Richards Minot, Esq., the Rev. John Mellen, Jr., Thomas Pemberton, William Dandridge Peck, the Rev. John Prince, Ezekiel Price, Esq., James Sullivan, Esq., David Sewall, Esq., Peter Thacher, D.D., William Tudor, Esq., Samuel Turell, Dudley Atkins Tyng, Esq., James Winthrop, Esq., Thomas Wallcut, Redford Webster, and William Wetmore, Esq., who have associated for the purposes aforesaid, and have requested an Act of Incorporation, be, and hereby are, formed into and constituted a Society and body politic and corporate, by the name of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY; and that they and their successors, and such other persons as shall be legally elected by them, shall be and continue a body politic and corporate, by that name forever.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the members of said Society shall have power to elect a President, and all other necessary officers; and that the said Society shall have one common seal, and the same may break, change, and renew at pleasure; and that the same Society, by the name aforesaid, as a body politic and corporate, may sue and be sued, prosecute and defend suits to final judgment and execution.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society shall have power to make orders and by-laws for governing its members and property, not repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth; and may expel, disfranchise, or suspend any member, who, by his misconduct, shall be rendered unworthy.

And be it further enacted, That the said Society may, from time to time, establish rules for electing officers and members, and also times and places for holding meetings; and shall be capable to take and hold real or personal estate, by gift, grant, devise, or otherwise, and the same, or any part thereof, to alien and convey: *Provided*, That the annual income of any real estate, by said Society holden, shall never exceed the sum of five hundred pounds; and that the personal estate thereof, besides books, papers, and articles in the Museum of said Society, shall never exceed the value of two thousand pounds.

And be it further enacted, That the members of said Society shall never be more than sixty (except honorary members, residing without the limits of this Commonwealth), and that James Sullivan, Esq., be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered to notify and warn the first meeting of said Society; and that the same Society, when met, shall agree upon a method for calling future meetings, and may have power to adjourn from time to time, as may be found necessary.

And be it further enacted, That either branch of the Legislature shall and may have free access to the Library and Museum of said Society.

[This Act passed February 19, 1794.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIVE.

An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Sect. 1. — The Massachusetts Historical Society is hereby authorized to hold real and personal estate, in addition to its Library, to an amount not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars.

Sect. 2. — This Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

[This Act passed May 21, 1855.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SEVEN.

An Act in relation to the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Sect. 1. — Nothing in the Act of Incorporation of the Massachusetts Historical Society shall prevent said Society from electing Associate or Corresponding Members residing without the limits of this Commonwealth,

or Honorary Members residing either within or without said limits, or from having as many as one hundred Resident Members, at their discretion.

SECT. 2. — This Act shall take effect from and after its acceptance by said Society.

[This Act passed April 2, 1857, and accepted by the Society April 9.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN.

An Act in addition to an Act to incorporate the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: —

SECT. 1. — The Massachusetts Historical Society is hereby authorized to hold real and personal estate in addition to its Library to an amount of three hundred thousand dollars.

SECT. 2. — This Act shall take effect upon its passage.

[This Act passed February 16, 1877.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY-FOUR.

An Act to authorize the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY to hold additional real and personal estate.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows: —

SECT. 1. — The Massachusetts Historical Society is hereby authorized to hold real and personal estate, in addition to its Library and Library building and land, to an amount not exceeding six hundred thousand dollars.

SECT. 2. — This act shall take effect upon its passage.

[This Act passed February 26, 1894.]

BY-LAWS.

CHAPTER I.

OF MEMBERS.

ARTICLE 1. — The Resident Members of the Society, who alone are entitled to vote, shall be elected from among citizens of Massachusetts who habitually reside some considerable part of each year within this Commonwealth, and the Society shall be at liberty to transfer their names to its roll of Corresponding Members if they remove from the State; provided, however, that a liberal allowance shall be made for temporary or official absence.

Honorary and Corresponding Members shall be elected from among those persons who reside in other States or countries, and the membership of Corresponding Members shall cease if they become both citizens and permanent residents of this Commonwealth. The number of Corresponding Members shall never exceed the number of Resident Members; and the number of Honorary Members shall never exceed twenty, of whom at least one half shall be citizens of foreign countries.

ART. 2. — A book shall be kept by the Recording Secretary, in which any Resident Member of the Society may enter the name of any person whom he may regard as suitable to be nominated as a Resident, Corresponding, or Honorary Member; it being understood that each member is bound in honor not to make known abroad the name of any person either proposed or nominated. But no nomination of any member shall be made except by a report of the Council, at a stated meeting

of the Society, nor be acted upon at the same meeting to which it is reported; nor shall more than two candidates for membership, of the same class, be reported at any one meeting.

Art. 3. — All nominations shall be accompanied by a brief statement of the place of residence and qualifications of the person nominated.

Art. 4. — All members shall be elected by ballot; and, in balloting for members, the law and custom of our forefathers shall be observed, by taking the question with Indian corn and beans; the corn expressing *yeas*, and the beans *nays*. But no person shall be deemed chosen, unless there be twenty members present and voting at the election, nor unless three fourths of all the votes are in the affirmative.

Art. 5. — Each Resident Member shall pay twenty-five dollars at the time of his admission, and ten dollars each first of January afterward, into the treasury of the Society, for its general purposes; but any member shall be exempted from the annual payment if, at any time after his admission, he shall pay into the treasury one hundred and fifty dollars in addition to what he may before have paid; and all commutation fees shall be funded by the Treasurer, and the interest only used for the current expenses of the Society. Each Resident Member shall be entitled to receive a copy of all the regular publications of the Society, issued after his election, without charge; and all members who have paid the commutation fee shall be entitled to the privilege of the Library, and to copies of the publications, for life, even should their membership cease by removal from the State or by resignation.

Art. 6. — If any person elected as a Resident Member shall neglect, for one year after being notified of his election, to pay his admission-fee, his election shall be void; and if any Resident Member shall neglect to pay his annual assessment for two years after it shall have become due and his attention shall have been called to this article in the By-laws, he shall cease to

be a member; provided, however, it shall be in the power of the Treasurer, with the consent of the President, to dispense (*sub silentio*) with the payment of the assessment, whenever, in any special instance, they may think it advisable to do so. Each person who shall be elected a Resident Member shall, when notified of it, be furnished by the Corresponding Secretary with a copy of this Article and the preceding one.

ART. 7. — Diplomas signed by the President, and countersigned by the two Secretaries, shall be issued to all persons who have become members of the Society.

CHAPTER II.

OF MEETINGS.

ART. 1. — There shall be a Regular Meeting of the Society on the second Thursday of every month, at three o'clock P. M., at their rooms in Boston; provided, however, that the Council shall have authority to postpone any such monthly meeting, or to dispense with it altogether, or to direct it to be held at other rooms, or at another hour, whenever, for any cause, they may deem it desirable or expedient. Special meetings shall be called by either of the Secretaries, whenever requested so to do by the President, or, in case of his absence or inability, by one of the Vice-Presidents or by the Council.

ART. 2. — At all meetings, the President shall take the chair in five minutes after the time appointed in the notification; and the record of the preceding meeting shall then be at once read. After which, at all Special Meetings, the special business for which the meeting was called shall be transacted; and, at all Regular Meetings, the order of business shall be as follows: —

First, The Librarian shall make his report.

Second, The Cabinet-keeper shall make his report.

Third, The Corresponding Secretary shall read any communications he may have received.

Fourth, The unfinished business and the assignments of the last meeting shall be taken up in their order.

Fifth, The Council shall be called on to report its doings since the last meeting.

Sixth, Other committees shall be called on for reports.

Seventh, The Society shall then proceed to such matters of business as may be proposed by any member; after which members generally shall be invited to make any communications on any subject having relation to the purposes of the Society; and, for the orderly accomplishment of this object, the Society shall be divided into three sections, as nearly equal in numbers as may be, each of which, in regular sequence, shall be notified by the Recording Secretary, that the Society, at the next meeting, will receive from it such communications; and the officer presiding at the next meeting shall call upon members of such section to offer any communication; after which the communication so made may be discussed by the Society generally.

Art. 3. — Fifteen members shall be a quorum for all purposes except the election of members, as hereinbefore provided; and excepting, also, for alterations of the By-laws, which shall not be made unless twenty persons are present, nor unless the subject has either been discussed at a previous meeting, or reported on by a committee appointed for the purpose.

Art. 4. — At the request of any two members present, any subject proposed for discussion shall be once deferred to a subsequent meeting, before it is finally disposed of.

Art. 5. — All committees shall be nominated by the chair, unless otherwise ordered.

CHAPTER III.

OF OFFICERS.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, who shall be, *ex officio*, Chairman of the Council; two Vice-Presidents; a Recording Secretary, who shall also be, *ex officio*, Secretary of the Council; a Corresponding Secretary; a Treasurer; a Librarian; and a Cabinet-keeper, — all of whom shall be chosen by ballot at the monthly meeting in April, and shall hold their respective offices for one year, or until others are duly chosen in their stead. At the same meeting five members shall be chosen (no more than two of whom shall hold their places for more than two successive years) who, with the foregoing officers, shall constitute the Council of the Society; which may fix its own quorum, provided that no nomination of members shall be made to which less than seven of its number shall have assented at a meeting of the Council.

At the regular monthly meeting preceding any election of officers, a Nominating Committee, consisting of three persons, shall be appointed, who shall report to the meeting at which the election is to be made a list of members for the places to be filled.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President shall preside in all meetings of the Society when present, and, when absent, one of the Vice-Presidents, in the order of their names. In the absence of all these officers, a President *pro tempore* shall be chosen.

CHAPTER V.

OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

ART. 1. — The Recording Secretary, or, in case of his death or absence, the Corresponding Secretary, shall warn all meetings of the Society, by causing to be sent, through the post-office, to all the Resident Members, notices of each meeting. Notices of the regular meetings shall be issued on the Monday preceding.

ART. 2. — He shall keep an exact record of all the meetings of the Society, with the names of the members present; entering in full all reports of committees that may be accepted by the Society, unless otherwise specially directed, or unless the same are to be included in the printed Proceedings.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

ART. 1. — The Corresponding Secretary shall inform all persons of their election as members of the Society, sending to each a copy of the By-laws, and on their acceptance shall issue the proper diplomas.

ART. 2. — He shall carry on all the correspondence of the Society not otherwise provided for; and deposit copies of the letters sent and the original letters received, in regular files, in the Library.

CHAPTER VII.

OF THE TREASURER.

ART. I. — The Treasurer shall collect all moneys due to the Society, and shall keep regular and faithful accounts of all the moneys and funds of the Society that may come into his hands, and of all receipts and expenditures connected with the same, — which accounts shall always be open to the inspection of the members; and, at the regular meeting in April, he shall make a written report of all his doings for the year preceding, and of the amount and condition of all the property of the Society intrusted to him. One week before the monthly meeting in April of each year, he shall give notice to every member of any assessment remaining due from him.

ART. 2. — He shall pay no moneys, except on vote of the Society, or of the Council, or on voucher of an officer or committee acting conformably to its laws or orders.

CHAPTER VIII.

OF THE COMMITTEES ON THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS, THE LIBRARY, AND CABINET.

ART. 1. — At the monthly meeting in March, annually, a Committee of not less than two members shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to examine the Treasurer's accounts for the year preceding, and the state of any funds of the Society in his hands, and to report thereon at the April meeting.

ART. 2. — At the monthly meeting in March, annually, a Committee of not less than three members shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to examine the property of the Society

in charge of the Librarian and the Cabinet-keeper, and to report thereon at the April meeting.

Art. 3. — These Committees shall be designated by the Chair, unless otherwise ordered, and shall be required to report in writing or in print.

CHAPTER IX.

OF THE LIBRARIAN, AND OF THE LIBRARY.

Art. 1. — The Librarian shall have charge of all the books, tracts, maps, manuscripts, and other property of the Society appropriate to a library; and shall cause to be made, and kept exact and perfect, catalogues of each and all of them, doing whatever may be in his power, at all times, to preserve and increase the collections under his care.

Art. 2. — He shall acknowledge each donation that may be made to the Library, by a certificate addressed to the person making it.

Art. 3. — He shall, at every monthly meeting of the Society, report all donations made to the Library since the last monthly meeting, with the names of the donors; and, at the annual meeting, shall present a statement of the condition and wants of the Library, with a notice of the important accessions that may have been made to it during the year.

Art. 4. — He shall cause to be kept an exact account of all books taken out, with the names of the persons who take them, and the dates when they are borrowed and returned.

Art. 5. — He shall report in writing, at each monthly meeting, the name of every book that has been out of the Library for a longer term than is permitted by the By-laws, and shall use his discretion in obtaining the return of such books.

ART. 6. — He may have one or more assistants, not members of the Society, appointed by the Council, who shall aid him in all or any of his duties; who shall also aid the Recording Secretary in notifying meetings, copying reports, or in any other way that may be required, and who shall render such other services to the Society connected with its Library or its general proceedings as the Council may direct.

ART. 7. — The Librarian shall be present in the Library, in person or by an assistant, at the regular hours, and at such other times as may be appointed for keeping it open; and shall endeavor to render it useful to all who may resort to it.

ART. 8. — Any Resident Member of the Society may take from the Library three printed volumes at a time, and keep each of them four weeks, with a right to renew the loan for four weeks more, unless some other member has, in that interval, asked for it in writing; but if he retains it beyond this second period, he must first obtain the written assent of a member of the Council, permitting him to do so, or he shall be fined ten cents a week for each volume so retained.

ART. 9. — All members taking books from the Library shall be answerable for any injury done to the same, to such amount as may be deemed just by the Council; and any person neglecting to pay any fines, or assessments for damages, one month after he shall have received notice of the same from the Librarian, or otherwise abusing his privilege to the injury of the Library, shall, by order of the Council, be interdicted from access to the same.

ART. 10. — At the written request of any Resident Member of this Society, the Librarian shall permit any person to visit and use the Library, at such times as the Librarian may be in attendance; such member becoming thereby responsible for any injury to the property of the Society that may result from such introduction of a stranger.

Art. 11. — At the written request of any Resident Member of the Society, the Librarian shall deliver to any one person indicated in such request, but to no more than one person at the same time, any book or books belonging to the Society, which the member himself could take out; such member, by such request, making himself responsible that all the rules relating to the book or books so taken out shall be as fully observed by the person authorized to receive them as if he were a member; and that any injury accruing to the property of the Society, in consequence of the privilege thus granted, shall be made good by the member at whose request the grant is made.

Art. 12. — At the meetings in April, July, October, and January, the Librarian shall lay before the Society a list of the names of those persons, not members, who, during the preceding three months respectively, may have had access to the Library by permission of individual members of the Society, with the names of the members at whose request the privilege was granted; adding a statement of each injury that may have been sustained by the property of the Society, in consequence of granting such permission, and the name of the member bound to make it good.

Art. 13. — The Publishing Committee, for the time being, shall be permitted to take such books and manuscripts from the Library as they may need, in order to perform the duty assigned to them by the Society; but the Librarian shall make a record of whatever is so taken, and, as soon as the volume they may have in charge is published, he shall require the return of the same.

Art. 14. — All manuscripts of the Society shall be kept under lock and key, and be used only in presence of the Librarian or an assistant.

Art. 15. — Persons not members of the Society, engaged in historical pursuits, shall be allowed to consult the manuscripts belonging to the Society, provided an application in writing,

stating the object of the inquiry, be first made to the Librarian, who shall make record of the same.

Art. 16. — No manuscript, and no part of a manuscript, belonging to the Society, shall be copied, except on permission granted by the Council, after an application in writing, specifying the manuscript, or part thereof, desired to be copied; and if any manuscript belonging to the Society shall, in consequence of such permission, be published, in whole or in part, the fact that it was obtained from the Society shall be required to be stated in its publication. But nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the publication of names, dates, and other chronological memoranda, without special permission.

Art. 17. — Manuscripts of a confidential nature shall be retained in a place of special deposit, and shall be consulted only under such regulations as may be prescribed in each case by vote of the Society.

Art. 18. — No maps, newspapers, or books of great rarity or of constant reference, shall be taken from the Library, except by vote of the Society.

Art. 19. — All tracts, books, maps, and manuscripts belonging to the Society, shall be distinctly marked as its property; and any such tract, book, &c., that may be presented to the Society shall be marked with the name of the donor, and recorded as his gift.

Art. 20. — The Library shall be open on all week-days, from nine o'clock in the forenoon till sunset (but not later than six o'clock), throughout the year, except on the afternoons of Saturdays, and on days of public observance, and also during the fortnight before the annual meeting in April, when it shall be closed for examination; and all books that may be lent are hereby required to be returned previous to that fortnight, under a penalty of a fine of one dollar for each volume not so returned.

CHAPTER X.

RULES FOR THE DOWSE LIBRARY.

ART. 1. — The room in which the books are deposited which were presented to the Society by Thomas Dowse shall be known forever as the DOWSE LIBRARY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ART. 2. — Agreeably to the condition prescribed by Mr. Dowse, no book shall be taken out of this room.

ART. 3. — Books may be used in the room by members of the Society, and by others introduced by them in person; but no book shall be taken from the cases except by members, or by the Librarian's assistant, who shall cause each book to be returned to its proper place immediately after it has been used.

ART. 4. — Meetings of the Society may be held in the Dowse Library, at the discretion of the Council; but the room shall not be used for any other meetings.

CHAPTER XI.

OF THE CABINET-KEEPER, AND THE MUSEUM.

ART. 1. — The Cabinet-keeper shall have charge of all coins, works of art, remains of antiquity, and other articles appropriate to the Society's Museum, and shall make and keep perfect and exact catalogues of the same.

ART. 2. — He shall acknowledge each donation he may receive, by letter, to the person making it. At every monthly meeting of the Society, he shall report whatever may have

been added to the collection of which he has charge, with the names of the donors; and, at the annual meeting, shall present a full report of the condition of the Museum.

CHAPTER XII.

OF THE COUNCIL.

ART. 1. — The Council shall, from time to time, carefully consider the claims of all persons whose names have been proposed for membership, and, as vacancies occur in the Society, by death or otherwise, shall, at their discretion, report nominations; but no nomination, whether for Honorary, Corresponding, or Resident Membership, shall be reported of any person whose name has not been entered in the nomination-book at least thirty days, and which shall not have subsequently received the assent of at least seven members of the Council.

ART. 2. — They shall engage whatever assistance is needed to administer the Library, and shall pay the current expenses of the Society, drawing on the Treasurer, from time to time, for such sums as may be necessary for that purpose.

ART. 3. — They shall cause to be made, as often as may seem expedient, a thorough examination of the Library and Cabinet of the Society, in order that the books, pictures, manuscripts, and other articles may be carefully compared with their respective Catalogues.

ART. 4. — They shall record in full, in a book kept by them for the purpose, any permission granted by any one of their number for the consultation of the manuscripts of the Society, by persons not members.

ART. 5. — They shall meet in the Society's rooms within one week previous to every regular meeting, on such day and at such hour as they may agree upon, and at such other times as

the Chairman shall call them together, for the fulfilment of their appropriate duties, and for the purpose of facilitating the transaction of such business as will be brought before the Society; and for making such arrangements as may be expedient for securing the communication of historical papers.

Art. 6. — They shall, at every meeting, report to the Society all their doings since the last meeting, suggesting at the same time such business as they may deem advisable to bring before it.

Art. 7. — On the death of a Resident Member, they shall, at the next meeting of the Society, report, through the President, a nomination of a person to prepare a memoir of the deceased for the Proceedings.

Art. 8. — They shall have authority to appoint such sub-committees of their number as they shall think expedient, to facilitate the administration of the Society's affairs.

Art. 9. — They shall make an annual report, to be drawn up by that one of the members at large who has had the longest term of service.

CHAPTER XIII.

OF THE PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

Art. 1. — Immediately after the publication of any volume of the Collections of the Society, or at any other time when the Society may order, a Committee of not less than three persons shall be appointed by nomination from the chair, whose duty it shall be to prepare and publish another volume; for which purpose they are authorized to draw on the Treasurer, and free use is granted to them of all the manuscripts, printed books, and other resources of the Society, except the manuscripts deposited as confidential; said Committee being required hereby to return whatever they may have thus received, so soon as

their use of the same for the purposes of such publication shall have ceased.

In every publication that shall be made from the income of the Appleton, the Peabody, or other publishing fund, there shall be inserted in each volume a statement in print, that it was made at the charge of that fund which bears the expense of the publication.

ART. 2. — The Recording Secretary, and two other members to be appointed at the annual meeting by the President, shall constitute a Committee, with full power to provide for occasional reports, as well as for the permanent publication of the Proceedings of the Society, subject to the following limitations: —

First, Neither the remarks nor the name of any member shall be introduced into any report without his permission.

Second, All papers read or remarks made by any member, which such member shall desire or be willing to have printed, shall be submitted to the above-named Committee for the purpose, and shall be subject to their discretion: provided, however, that any member may publish, on his own responsibility, any paper or remarks of his own which the Committee may not think fit to include in their report; it being understood that, in such case, the name of the Society is not to be used in any way whatever in connection with such publication.

ART. 3. — In order to facilitate the work of the Society, the Council may, when it shall seem expedient, appoint a member of the Society, or other competent person, who shall be immediately responsible for the proper editing of all volumes, whether of Collections or Proceedings, the supervision of the Society's copyists, and the adequate preparation of all material intended for the press. If the person so appointed be a Resident Member of the Society, he shall be *ex officio* a member of all committees of publication; but if he be not a Resident Member, his authority shall be subordinate to that of said committees. In view of the laborious nature of his duties, he may receive a salary, the amount of which shall be fixed by the Council, as in the case of the Librarian's assistants.

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